

C.I.A. Adopts Regulation Barring Use of U.S. Reporters to Aid in Spying

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The Central Intelligence Agency announced today that it had adopted a new regulation barring any use of American reporters or employees of American news-gathering organizations as adjuncts of agency intelligence operations.

The announcement issued by Admiral Stansfield Turner, Director of Central Intelligence, also said that previous relationships between the agency and American reporters had been severed as of the end of last year.

In April 1976, a report by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence disclosed that the C.I.A. had maintained working relationships with 50 American reporters over a period of years. That practice was deplored by numerous American news organizations and members of Congress.

The agency's announcement said that Admiral Turner had issued a regulation dated Nov. 30 that made more precise the agency's policy toward reporters.

A Carter Administration official noted that the Turner regulation went much further than a C.I.A. policy statement of Feb. 11, 1976, which said that "effective immediately, the C.I.A. will not enter into any paid or contractual relationship with American reporters. The new regulation bars "any" relationships with American journalists "for the purpose of conducting any intelligence activities." The regulation is as follows:

"The special status afforded to the press under the Constitution necessitates a careful policy of self-restraint on the part of the agency in regard to its relations with U.S. news media organizations and personnel. Accordingly, the C.I.A. will not:

"(a) Enter into any relationships with full-time or part-time journalists (including so-called stringers) accredited by a U.S. news service, newspaper, periodical, radio or television network or station, for the purpose of conducting any intelligence activities. The term accredited means any full- or part-time employee of U.S. or foreign nationality who is formally authorized by contract or by issuance of press credentials to represent himself or herself either in the U.S. or abroad as a correspondent for a U.S. news media organization.

"(b) Without the specific, express approval of senior management of the organization, concerned, enter into any relationships with nonjournalist staff employees of any U.S. news media organization to provide cover for agency employ-ees or activities."

Detailed Limitations Provided

The regulation goes on to provide detailed limitations.

"The policies set forth above are not designed to inhibit open relationships with journalists (for example, contracts to perform translating services or to lecture at agency training courses) which are entered into for reasons unrelated to such persons," the regulation says. "Willingness on both sides to acknowl-

edge the fact and nature of the relationship is the essential characteristic of the open relationships into which the C.I.A. will not enter.

"In addition, the C.I.A. will not deny any person, including full-time or part-time accredited journalists and stringers regardless of profession, the opportunity to furnish information which may be useful to his or her Government." The regulation continued, "Therefore, the C.I.A. will continue to permit unpaid relationships with journalists or other members of U.S. news media organizations who

voluntarily maintain contact for the purpose of providing information on matters of foreign intelligence or foreign counter-intelligence to the U.S. Government." The regulation added:

"Likewise, the agency, through the office of the assistant for public affairs to the director, will continue to maintain regular liaison with representatives of the news media to provide public information, answers to inquiries, and assistance in obtaining unclassified briefings on substantive matters."