

INQUIRIES ON C.I.A. IRK ROCKEFELLER

He Says Congressmen Have
Exposed Intelligence Work
and Aided Nation's Foes

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SAN FRANCISCO, May 3.—Vice President Rockefeller criticized today the recently concluded Congressional investigations of the Federal intelligence agencies for having "exposed American foreign intelligence operations to the world, to the great profit of potential enemies and the grave distress of foreign friends."

Mr. Rockefeller's remarks, in a luncheon speech to the Commonwealth Club here, marked the first reaction from a senior Ford Administration official to the final report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, which was issued last week.

The Senate report contained an extensive review of the history and operations of the Central Intelligence Agency, although such sensitive items as the names of C.I.A. agents, the size of the agency's budget and details about the agency's covert operations abroad were not published.

At a news conference before the luncheon, Mr. Rockefeller took issue with Ronald Reagan, a Republican Presidential candidate, calling Mr. Reagan's recent criticism of the renegotiation of the Panama Canal treaty "one of the worst forms of destructive demagoguery."

'An Absolute Absurdity'

The Vice President said that Mr. Reagan, who served eight years as Governor of California, had had no experience in foreign affairs, and he declared that Mr. Reagan's comparison of moves by the Ford Administration to return control of the canal to the Panamanians to giving back the Louisiana Purchase was "an absolute absurdity."

He said that under the original canal treaty, the United States had never owned the canal but had only the rights of sovereignty, and he termed Mr. Reagan's attacks a serious illustration of what can be an irresponsible misrepresentation of the facts.

Mr. Rockefeller, who delivered the 10th in his series of speeches on major issues before an audience of nearly 2,000 persons, noted that he headed last year a commission set up by President Ford to examine the C.I.A.'s domestic operations.

Results of Inquiry

That inquiry, which issued its final report 11 months ago, "definitely found certain domestic violations," the Vice President said, but uncovered "on the whole a vitally important and reasonably conducted intelligence operation."

The Senate committee and its counterpart panel in the House, Mr. Rockefeller said, went "far beyond the domestic scene" in their inquiries, and he asserted that their public reports "have had a most serious impact on the effectiveness of our foreign policy and national security."

The House voted against publishing its panel's full report, but extensive excerpts were printed after a copy was made available to newsmen.

George Bush, the new Director of Central Intelligence, praised the select committee last night when he told an awards dinner of the Overseas Press Club in Washington that the panel had pointed out abuses while continuing "to recognize the mission to have a strong intelligence agency."