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Who Controls CIA?

To the Editors: The Green Beret case obviously raises the question of who, if anyone, controls the CIA. Obviously not the Congress, which long ago abdicated its role by sticking its collective head in the sand. How about the President? The order to court martial the Green Berets could not have been issued with White House approval. Yet, when it came time for the trial, President Nixon would not order the CIA to produce the witnesses. Or is it that he could not order it? Or dared not?

Unhappily, the Green Beret Case also raises the question of Presidential assassination. Compare the investigation of the "disposal" of Thai Khac Chuyen by the Green Berets in Vietnam to the investigation of the "disposal" of President Kennedy's alleged slayer in Dallas. Chuyen may well have been a double or even a triple agent, but, he was on the payroll of the CIA or, to be less precise, the payroll of the "U. S. intelligence community." As to Le Harvey Oswald, whoever his mentors and whatever his role in the Dallas assassination, we do know that he too had been an agent of the "U. S. intelligence community." Of this, there is abundant proof.

As the CIA has not permitted Congressional or Presidential scrutiny of its general activities, it certainly will not readily permit public scrutiny of murders in which its agents play a role. Thus the Warren Commission was packed with CIA protectors: Allen Dulles, ex-CIA chieftain; John J. McCloy, lifetime intelligence officer; Richard Russell, the CIA's spokesman in the Senate. As Chief Justice Warren admitted in his only slip of the tongue, "the public will not know of the truth about the assassination for seventy five years."

When will some senator or representative get up his courage and say, "Enough," and demand a thorough Congressional investigation not only of CIA killings (Kiem and Chuyen in Vietnam, Arbenz in Guatemala, Guevara in Bolivia, just to mention a few which have "surfaced") but also an investigation of CIA activities in general?

If neither the President nor the Congress can control this so-called agency of the United States, God help our country, because it certainly needs help desperately.

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