

# Harassment by Korean CIA Alleged

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South Korean intelligence agents are waging a campaign of harassment against Koreans living in the United States who oppose the Seoul government, a House subcommittee was told yesterday.

Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) agents have disrupted demonstrations in U.S. cities, brought pressure to close an anti-Seoul government newspaper in Los Angeles and ignored warnings from the State Department about their activities, according to testimony by an American university professor, a former State Department officer and a Korean-language newspaper editor.

Questioned by a reporter, a spokesman for the South Korean embassy attending the hearing before the International Organizations subcommittee of the House Committee on International

Relations said he did not believe the allegations.

He said he had no knowledge of any KCIA harassment activities in the United States.

Kim Hyung II, president of a Korean residents association in Los Angeles, told the subcommittee he knew of no cases of KCIA intimidations in his community.

However, Donald L. Ranard, who retired in 1974 after four years as director of the State Department Office of Korean Affairs, testified he asked the FBI to investigate KCIA agents' activities in 1973 but got few results.

"An investigation began but for reasons which I never quite understood, it never really got off the ground," Ranard said. "When it finally petered out several months later it had produced little more than mere confirmation of the basic information I had submitted initially."

"Much . . . seemed to be made of an explanation that to proceed properly, the FBI would need to talk directly to KCIA personnel at the Korean Embassy which obviously the State Department had no power to direct because of their diplomatic immunity," Ranard said.

But Ranard said he knew, based on U.S. intelligence reports, that the KCIA "has organized demonstrations in support of the [President Park Chung Hee] government, and at other times attempted to break up demonstrations against that government."

He offered to provide more specific testimony in closed session, which a subcommittee staff member said would probably be scheduled soon.

Kim Woon Ha, editor of New Korea, a Korean-language newspaper published in Los Angeles, said the

KCIA tried for months to close his paper or end his criticism of the Park government by pressuring businessmen to cancel advertisements, offering him money, free tickets to Korea or a government job, and spreading rumors he was a Communist.

He said that when two staff members quit he could find no one willing to replace them and now puts out his newspaper with the help of his wife.

A fourth witness before the subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Donald M. Fraser (D-Minn.), was Prof. Gregory Henderson of Case Western Reserve University. Henderson, a Korean expert, called the KCIA "a vast, shadowy world of an estimated 100,000 to 300,000 bureaucrats, intellectuals, agents and thugs," and said he knew at least 18 agents were stationed in the United States.