

Ford Aide Says CIA Link Lasted Only 3 Months

By Jeremiah O'Leary
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White House aide Theodore C. Marrs has acknowledged that he was the flight surgeon for the CIA-organized B26 squadron that bombed Cuba during the Bay of Pigs invasion, but he said his connection with the agency ended after three months in 1961.

Marrs, now special assistant to the President for human resources and a brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve, said he was recruited for the CIA's invasion force through the Alabama Air Guard, which furnished some of the pilots for the anti-Castro effort. He said he served only as a doctor at the secret bases in Guatemala and Nicaragua.

"Then I went back to being a baby doctor," said Marrs, a pediatrician. He said he had offered to leave the White House staff if the disclosure was an embarrassment, but there was no sign that his resignation was desired by the administration.

IT WAS ALSO learned that Mary M. Wengryznek, a CIA employe working at the White House, had been secretary to Lawrence S. Eagleburger at the National Security Council prior to September 1973, when Henry A. Kissinger became secretary of state and Eagleburger left the NSC staff to become one of Kissinger's top aides at the State Department. The CIA clerk-stenographer also had been secretary to Peter G. Peterson when Peterson was special assistant to the President for international economic policy and, later, secretary of commerce.

These officials knew Wengryznek was on detached duty from CIA and saw nothing unusual about it.



THEODORE C. MARRS
Served CIA squadron

Eagleburger said he knew her background, considered her a fine and loyal secretary and gave no thought to her CIA connection.

"There were never enough staff people for all of us at the White House, especially at the NSC," Eagleburger said. "That's why so many secretaries were assigned there from other departments and agencies."

Wengryznek could not be reached for comment but told one newsman she had never reported back to the CIA on anything that she knew of White House functions.

MAJORITY LEADER Mike Mansfield, D-Mont, said yesterday he will ask congressional probers to investigate the possibility that CIA agents may have been planted in the Senate. He stipulated that he had no evidence of any CIA spying on Capitol Hill, but said the possibility of agents at the

Senate should be explored to clear the air. "As long as certain allegations have been made about other government agencies, it is important to look into the matter fully," Mansfield said.

The allegations of CIA infiltration of the White House and executive branch agencies were made this week by members of a House select intelligence committee, who said they had seen documents supporting the charges.

A secret 1973 CIA inspector general's report made available to reporters later said that CIA employes had been loaned to other agencies and acknowledged that such assignments might be questionable.

There was no official comment on Marrs' connection with the CIA in 1961 but well-informed officials privately confirmed that Marrs had been hired on a short contract only for the purpose of performing medical services for the Bay of Pigs air unit.

MARRS HANDLES a variety of subjects including refugees, religious groups, MIA problems and ethnic groups under the direction of presidential assistant William J. Baroody Jr. His CIA connection was made public in a press release by the National Council of Scientology Ministers, which claimed he had a "30-year history of activity within the CIA and other agencies within the governmental intelligence community." The Scientology ministers called for immediate removal of Marrs from his post as Ford's liaison officer with religious organizations.

Before moving to the White House, Marrs was deputy assistant secretary of defense for manpower and reserve affairs. From 1964 to 1970 he was deputy for reserve affairs and education in the office of the secretary of the Air Force.