Panel to Suggest CIA Name Change

By Jack Anderson and Les Whitten

A blue-ribbon commission, with such prestigious members as Vice President Rockefeller and Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), is expected to recommend on June 30 that the embattled Central Intelligence Agency continue its controversial undercover opeations under a new name.

The commission's staff has prepared a confidential study, proposing that the CIA start anew as the Foreign Intelligence Agency. The study is expected to be approved by the full commission, which will submit it to President Ford and Congress at the end of the month.

The staff study declares—"We believe that firmer central direction and oversight of the intelligence community is essential. That is the main thrust of our recommendations."

The study cautions that "covert action"—which is defined as "activity abroad intended not to gather information but to influence events"—"should be employed only where clearly essential to vital U.S. purposes which are impossible to attain through other means, and then only after the most careful process of high-level review."

"But," the report emphasizes, "we do not conclude that covert action can or should be abolished."

The law requires the President personally to certify to Congress the necessity for an undercover operation. The report suggests this "is harmful in associating the head of state so formally with such activities."

The study recommends revoking "any requirement for the personal certification of the President as to their undercover operation's necessity."

Footnote: In a reference aimed at Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who serves as the President's national security affairs adviser, the report recommends that "in the future, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs should not ordinarily hold a Cabinet position as well." A spokesman for the commission refused to comment on the study.

Alcoholic Executives—Of a million business executives who make up America's power elite, 150,000 to 200,000 are "irresponsible alcohol users."

Most manage to cope with their jobs despite an overdose of lunchtime martinis and evening cocktails. But they ruin their family lives and lead their children to drink, according to a survey conducted by the Booz Allen and Hamilton firm for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

The taxpayers put up $50,000 for the study, which touted a clinic-resort for the rich. But an NIAAA spokesman, while acknowledging that the government considered funding this glorified drunk tank, said it was ruled out because the affluent can pay for their own treatment. The funds are more badly needed for nonmillionaire alcoholics, he said.

But one of the government officials who authorized the costly study, former NIAAA deputy chief Ken Eaton, is using it to promote a private resort-clinic with himself as its head, sources report.

Eaton conceded he has discussed the idea with his former boss, NIAAA chief Dr. Morris Chafetz. Eaton said he also talked about the project with an entrepreneur. But he insisted he was merely "blue skying" the idea. He swore he had never used the report, which he had promoted while at NIAAA, to solicit loans from banks to build a private treatment center.

As Booz Allen conceived it, the clinic-resort would match the most fabulous vacation centers. It would offer "golf for father," "sculpting workshop for mother," "photography workshop for children," not to mention tennis, billiards, swimming and other deluxe pursuits.

The emphasis would be on recreation to make the cure as pleasant as possible. But there also would be counseling sessions, with the drunken member of the family getting the most counseling.

"Consumption of alcohol while in the treatment environment will not be prohibited as a rule," suggests the study, although consumption would be controlled by "hours and amounts." Of course, some patients "simply should not drink" and would get no alcohol.

The Booz Allen study calls for a pilot program, costing about $725,000, as an adjunct to an existing vacation complex. The money might be put up, suggests the study, by the taxpayers. If the project is successful, a complete resort could be built for around $7 million, the study says.

Footnote: According to the study, 60 per cent of the executive lushes are between 45 and 64 years old, 96 per cent are married and 65 per cent have no more than one child.

Fatcat Fund—The fatcats are always raising money, it seems, for their friends on Capitol Hill. The Mortgage Bankers Political Action Committee has sent out a fund appeal, which speaks baldly of spending $50,000 on "congressmen who understand and support our industry's sound policies."