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McGee Accuses Author Of Drug Smuggling Book

Sen. Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.) accused author Alfred McCoy of "McCarthyism" for his testimony yesterday linking U.S. and Saigon government officials to heroin trafficking.

"I resent your implication, senator," McCoy responded during a hearing of the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee. He said his testimony and material in a forthcoming book were based on 18 months of research in Southeast Asia and on interviews with U.S. officials in this country.

Besides producing photostats of a U.S. Vietnam Military Assistance Command paper alleging that South Vietnam's Lt. Gen. Ngo Dzu and his father were linked with heroin trafficking, McCoy charged in his testimony that U.S. diplomats have tried to cover up illegal drug activities.

G. McMurtrie Godley, U.S. ambassador to Laos, "did his best to prevent the assignment of U.S. Bureau of Narcotics officials to Laos," McCoy testified.

"In northern Laos," charged the Yale graduate student, "Air America aircraft and helicopters chartered by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency have been transporting opium harvested by the agency's tribal mercenaries on a regular basis."

McGee challenged McCoy's credentials in likening those and other accusations to McCarthyism.

AT the State Department, a spokesman said: "We are aware of these charges, but we have been unable to find any evidence to substantiate them, much less proof."