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PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Don Cannon Show

WBBM

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Chicago

INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL WOOD

DON CANNON: "Last February Washington and the country was rocked by the disclosure that the National Student Association was a C.I.A. front. But that was just the beginning - in the following weeks it was discovered that more than one hundred American Education, Cultural and Political Programs were subsidized by the Central Intelligence Agency, including the United Auto Workers in the Labor Department and the National Council of Churches among others. The man responsible for all the uproar is Michael Wood, he's a former member of the Executive Board of the National Student Association, who blew the whistle and announced that the C, uh, the N.S.A. was a C.I.A. front - getting my initials confused here.

Michael Wood is with us tonight and we'll talk about his experience with the N.S.A., why he decided to blow the whistle on the C.I.A. and you can join the conversation too at MO 4-8660.

Mr. Wood, I understand that the former president, Mr. Sherbourne, was instructed by the C.I.A. at the time when he became President that he should not reveal to you or anybody else, the fact that N.S.A. was a C.I.A. front. He was threatened with a 20 year jail term if he compromised this promise. Apparently he decided to confide in you. What made you compromise him?"

MICHAEL WOOD: "Well, it's a very complex question that you ask because it reflects a number of initial assumptions which do not hold. The first assumption is that Mr. Sherbourne, or a very small click around him, held exclusive knowledge of the relationship between N.S.A. and the C.I.A.; that's not true. The fact of the matter is that during the year that I was, uh, engaged by the National Student Association, uh, N.S.A. had approximately 20 staff members, both at home and overseas, who were conscious agents of the Central Intelligence Agency. In addition, he had a large family of former N.S.A., uh, staff members and officers

who continued to work for the C.I.A., who were in the same family. He was not alone in his knowledge, number one.

Number two, uh, his, uh, his -- his disclosure of information to me, uh, carried with it a 20 year prison sentence only if the law which gives him that 20 years is held to be Constitutional. Uh, in as much as he was forced to swear that he would not disclose any information he received, before he was even told that N.S.A. was a C.I.A. front, constitutes, in my mind, a fundamental abridgement of the First Amendment - freedom of speech."

CANNON: "But he did agree to it, didn't he?"

WOOD: "Oh, he agreed to it before he knew what he was getting into. He, like all other members of the National Student Association, uh, thought when they were approached by what in their consciousness at the time of the meeting was only an Alumni of N.S.A. whom he had known before on a personal basis, uh, and when he was told that there was certain information that would be helpful to his, uh, to his work, but that was classified and that they were requesting him to sign a National Security Oath, uh, he like others, believed that he was getting a very small piece of information that related to his big task, that he was then engaged with, not a barrel of information, as he got, not the knowledge that his whole function as an Officer of N.S.A. was to serve the policy (foreign) interests of the United States Government, as they are defined by the Central Intelligence Agency."

CANNON: "Now, the C.I.A. has said that, or the Administration has said that as of last February, when the thing came out, that the C.I.A. was just about to drop financing and funding these various front groups anyhow. So assuming this is true, why did you think at this moment - why didn't you just let the thing die and go by the boards - why did you think it necessary to expose the C.I.A. at this point in time, when by their own admission, their association with these organizations was going to be short-lived anyhow."

WOOD: "Well, to believe that admission is, uh, not correct because, uh, even with the qualification of U.S. Foreign Policy is instruction that all Central Intelligence Agency Operations must be plausibly deniable by the Government, which assumes that the Government is going to deny things that it's doing, That was the great problem that Eisenhower had with the U-2 incident. First he acknowledged the fact that that was a C.I.A. operation, then he denied, then he acknowledged it, and by that time he ruined the summit conference. Uh, in 1948, uh, a memo was passed down from the National Security Council instructing the Central Intelligence Agency to engage in Secret activities on two conditions. Number one, that they be absolutely secret and number two, that they be plausibly deniable by the United States Government. All the announcements and official statements

of the government, with respect to the Central Intelligence Agency, since the exposure, have reflected that basic policy, which is that they deny as much as they can get away with denying.

They could not get away with denying the N.S.A., C.I.A. relationship - the fact that it existed, because in fact we had them with their pants down. When the story broke, at that time, not only did I know about it, but the entire -- the entire staff of N.S.A. knew about it by the time it broke, and the entire family Ramparts Magazine family knew about it. There was no way they could deny it.

The fact of the matter is, that they tried -- they tried very m-- very hard..."

CANNON: "To deny the f--..."

WOOD: "...to organize a total denial of the story. What they did is, they went to all the Officers when they found out long before the story broke, that I was doing the story, they went to all the Officers and all the relevant Staff Members, and tried to organize a total denial on the part of all of them - threatening each one of them individually with various forms of sanctions if they didn't go along. If they had succeeded in that effort, in organizing that, I would have gone down as would Ramparts Magazine have gone down, as a sick paranoid leftist, who was disgruntled and was out after revenge against an organization which had not treated him kindly in some other way."

CANNON: "Speaking of the Ramparts Magazine article, it called the C.I.A., N.S.A. association a case study in the corruption of youthful idealism and would prove that the C.I.A. owes the youth of this country an apology. Well, do you feel as a member of the N.S.A., do you feel that you were corrupted, and that the C.I.A. owes you an apology."

WOOD: "Well, I saw myself, uh, at the time - during the time that I did not know what I was doing - as an individual American Citizen, a student who was engaged in promoting the principles which he believed in. I came to find out later that what I was doing in fact, uh, was setting up counter revolution, uh, which is completely in contrast to my principles. What my particular was to raise funds for the organization and I turned out literally tens (?) of pro-forma proposals and foundation for grant proposals, uh, which were only serving for covers for the subsidies that were given to N.S.A. by the C.I.A. uh, I would never..."

CANNON: "At that time did you know that the C.I.A. was back of this?"

WOOD: "No. Not at that time, I never would have done that sort of work because that's promoting principles to which I do not adhere."

CANNON: "Now, those within the N.S.A. who knew of the C.I.A. link, how do they feel now, do they regret the link, are they proud of it or what?"

WOOD: "Well, you must -- you must realize that the Central Intelligence Agency is very careful in their choice of people that they're going to make 'witty' or make agents..."

CANNON: "That's..."

WOOD: "That's terminology..."

CANNON: "That's terminology for the leadership of the..."

WOOD: "...it's black language for those people who are made agents of the Central Intelligence Agency."

CANNON: "What do you mean black language?"

WOOD: "Black -- secret language -- it's language used by the C.I.A. family. And they're very careful in making very -- in making very sound judgements as to who will go along and who won't. As an example, uh, the basic training ground out of which the C.I.A. agents on the N.S.A. Staff are recruited, was an International Student Relations Seminar. Uh, approximately a hundred people applied for that -- the top student leadership across the country applied for that Seminar. To that Seminar were admitted 15 people which were pre-screened by the Central Intelligence Agency and those fifteen people-- maybe 10, 12 would be made agents. They studied them very carefully, they ran on each person that was made an agent, a \$3,000.00 National Security check, uh, by the time they made the decision to bring the person into the Central Intelligence Agency, they knew him psychologically so well that they were pretty certain that he wouldn't blow the whistle.

They -- the Officers had intended to make me an agent. The C.I.A. nixed that idea because they suspected that I would not go along. They were very careful..."

CANNON: "Is that because you wore a beard?"

WOOD: "No..."

CANNON: "Did you wear one then or what?"

WOOD: "No I didn't wear one then. It's because I had been involved in the Civil Rights Movement. I'd organized something as mild as two toilet projects in WATTS and '63 and '64 -- got 500 very innocent, mild college students to go down into WATTS and tutor. But this was a sign of a certain idealism which in their cynical mentality is unrealistic."

CANNON: "There were many leftists in the N.S.A. -- as a

matter of fact, many conservatives in this country look upon the N.S.A. as a 'Pinko' outfit - a far left outfit and, uh, if so, what is the C.I.A. doing running -- subsidizing a far left outfit."

WOOD: "Name some leftists in the National Student Association. People who are C.I.A. agents, who are leftists. They weren't Leftists, they were Liberals. There's a very sharp distinction between Liberals and Leftists. Uh, Liberals are the people who do the work for the right wing, uh, because the right wing is too stupid to do it for itself."

CANNON: (LAUGHTER)

WOOD: "No it's the truth. I mean, they're doing the same thing -- what they're doing..."

CANNON: "How do Liberals do the work of the Right Wing?"

WOOD: "Well, they're more intelligent, you see, and that's why they do it -- what they're doing is making the world safe for American Investments. And making the world safe for American Exploitation so that..."

CANNON: "The Liberals are copping-out, they're selling out to, uh..."

WOOD: "They're not selling out now, they sold out about 20 years ago, but that's another story."

CANNON: "So only today's Leftists, like yourself, are the real champions of Social Justice and Democracy."

WOOD: "I don't regard myself as a Leftist, people have called me a Leftist..."

CANNON: "What are you?"

WOOD: "I believe myself to be a principal citizen of the United States who in made the mistake of adhering to those principles that I was taught in the 5th Grade, which is open public government in an open public democracy. That's what we do not have any longer in this country."

CANNON: "Michael Wood is my guest, former member of the Board of the National Student Association who announced to the world a few months ago that the N.S.A. was a C.I.A. front. Our number is MO 4-8660, let's pause for these words, then we'll be right back."

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CANNON: "Don Cannon back with Michael Wood, former Executive Member of the, uh, National Student Association. We're at MO 4-8660..."

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CANNON: "Now let's continue with Michael Wood and it's 14 minutes after 8:00. Uh, you sound quite cynical, quite dissillusioned with not only the C.I.A. but, uh, American Politics and the Government the way it is now. Uh, but again it comes back to the C.I.A. Do we in fact need a Secret Organization like this? The Russians have their -- their K.B.G., their secret police. We have domestically, an F.B.I. Don't we need a C.I.A. to compete? We're in the ball game of International Politics. We have two things competing here -- we've got the basic Democratic Puritan Ethic upon which this country was founded, whether we like it or not, and the necessity to compete in the Cold War, and..."

WOOD: "Well, I don't believe in the Cold War, first of all, uh,..."

CANNON: "Well, I don't believe in it either. I don't think anybody believes in the Cold War but we have some people who would like to see us, I think, and uh, we have at least been competing with other ideologies and so in the contest of this competition, do we not need an organization like the C.I.A.?"

WOOD: "Well, first of all I want to make plain that when you say that we have been competing that that, in my mind, means that the Government of the United States and the interests which it serves has been competing in the Cold War. I don't believe that the American people have been or should be competing in the Cold War."

CANNON: "What do you mean 'the interests that the Government serves'?"

WOOD: "Well, the American, the American Companies which hold substantial investments throughout the world which profit directly from the soil of governmental control that we exercise in under-developed countries. Without that control, without that security that the Government provides, they could not make w--- it could not make investments in those countries which would return -- in which they could have confidence, uh, of some security."

CANNON: "Are you saying that the only interests the government serves are the interests of big business, of private power?"

WOOD: "Well, let me ask you, who's interest did we serving in the Dominican Republic when when we sent 25,000 American troops to put down a revolution that theoretically had 25 suspected Communists in it. That's a ratio of 1,000 American Marines to one Communist..."

CANNON: "Well didn't President Johnson say he was doing it to protect the lives of American Citizens there?"

WOOD: "25,000 people -- you want to protect the lives, you take the Citizens away. The fact of the matter is that the interest we were protecting was the sugar company there. And in fact the Ambassador to that Company, at that time, was Elswood Buncker, who is on the Board of the very same sugar company..."

CANNON: "Are you saying that we sent 25,000 troops to the Dominican Republic just to protect one sugar Company? I think that's a little hard to believe."

WOOD: "Well, why were we doing it then?"

CANNON: "Well, I don't know but the fact that we did it to protect one sugar company stretches my imagination beyond the credibility gap."

WOOD: "No. Well, let me explain. There is first of all interests which motivate policy, policy then takes on a life of it's own and, and, and carries over into other spheres. Uh, we were not when we sent the Marines into the Dominican Republic -- we were not simply protecting that sugar company -- but we were protecting the idea, the foreign policy, which is based on a world free for American Investment. If we didn't -- if we don't hold the line in the Dominican Republic, well then maybe we won't hold the line in Guatamala, if we don't hold the line there, then in all the countries; so that, so that when one sugar company is threatened in the Dominican Republic, all the other companies that have investments have a basic interest in seeing that that investment, maybe ours, be protected."

CANNON: "No. Not to mean anything personal by this but what you say reminds me a great deal of what old time Communists used to say. Now look, I'm not calling you an old time Communist; don't get me wrong, I'm not even calling you a new time Communist; but Lenin, when he talked about Imperialism, uh, he defined Imperialism as the final stage of Capitalism and uh, he defined Capitalism and Imperialism all would be wrapped up in the Capitalistic Country's Foreign Policy. And this is exactly what you're saying -- that we're sending in our troops to protect a sugar company and this is what Lenin said 50 years ago. I have been hesitant to admit that this is true -- I just -- I think that this is something that might have been true a hundred and fifty years ago but not necessarily now and it's hard for me to believe in -- that we would in the United States risk uh, the fantastic blow of world opinion just to protect one sugar company. It seems to me that there has to be larger, more overriding interests than simply a sugar company."

WOOD: "Well, if somehow you can prove to me that the -- that whatever was going on in the Dominican Republic threatened the Security of the United States, or threatened the welfare or well-being of the broad masses of American people than I will grant your assumption."

CANNON: "Well..."

WOOD: "I see nothing there that was threatening the United States."

CANNON: "It seems to me that the Administration believed, whether it was a valid belief or not I don't know, but they believed that Castro was trying to overthrow the Dominican Republic Government. Now whether this was a valid belief, in retrospect we can look back and make -- maybe say it was not; but then they believed this. And I..."

WOOD: "I think it's important to realize that that's the advertisement they put out to the American people. And that's the con game they use with the American people in order to get the people's support, they wave the red flag of Communism which scares everybody in order to rally support. It's the same thing that happened during the 17th Century when the Lutherans and the Catholics were fighting in Germany. And there was no scourge that ever hit the earth worse than the Lutheranism. Peoples souls were being damned and lost -- Lu -- the battle between Lutheranism and Catholicism was a front for a power struggle that was going on that was a very hard, cold economic interest and political power involved. The Principalities in the States in Germany. That's what's going on. The United States has dominion over Latin America and has dominion over certain countries and over investments in those countries which it does not want to give up and that's what we're protecting."

CANNON: "So that basically, all of our Foreign Policy is motivated by economic greed for a few banana companies or a few sugar companies..."

WOOD: "No, no. I'm not going to say that. What I'm going to say is that's the prime -- that's the initial motivation, then, then you see, you see, a Foreign Policy, which in order to justify that Policy to the American People then develops all sorts of fears about the nature of Communism. And perpetuates those theories amongst the American public for 20 years, uh, so that by the time we get to 1968 people really do believe that 600,000,000 people in China are evil people. That the government that rules there and the people who (WORD INAUDIBLE) it's bureaucracy and the people who work it's farms are evil people. Where in fact there -- I simply -- it seems more incredible to me that 600,000,000

people in China can be evil than that the United States Foreign Policy is governed by interests."

CANNON: "Most of the magazines that wrote anything about the C.I.A. - N.S.A. combination said that, 'Yes, the C.I.A. did fund it, but there was little or no say by the C.I.A. over the Policy of the National Student Association'. Now if this is true, were they not at the same time, picking the Leaders? What influence did the C.I.A. have in Policy making?"

WOOD: "It's not true, if you would like, it takes a bit of time for me to explain, uh, but I will try to do-say in 4 minutes."

CANNON: "Before you do explain let's part for a couple of minutes at 8:22 on WBBM..."

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CANNON: "Don Cannon back with Michael Wood, formerly of the National Student Association. Don't forget tonight..."

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CANNON: "...now let's continue with Michael Wood. I was asking you about what Policies the C.I.A. controlled, if any, in the National Student Association."

WOOD: "The day after the National Student Association's Officers admitted to the press that they had in fact been in league with the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department held a briefing in Washington which was attended by some 75 reporters. At that point they admitted the relationship, uh, and they said these things about it, They said that the relationship had begun in 1952, that it had been initiated by William Dencer, then President of N.S.A. who was seeking support for their programs, but since that time only two people and only two people had known about the relationship - two high Officers in the Association; That there had never been more than two hundred thousand dollars given to N.S.A. per year; that there had been no espionage; that there had been no control of Policy; no control of elections or the Political Structure and there had been no intimidation of N.S.A. Officers or Staffs.

Now, they did a very clever thing. When I learned that I was working for a C.I.A. front I was astounded as I'm sure you were and all of us were, because at that time I too believed that N.S.A. was a rather Left Wing Organization. Uh, and the thought that the Government would be working through it in that way was incredible. But since it was so incredible and since they admitted it, they got the press and the American people to believe that what they said after that was also true.

That was all completely falacious. During the year that I worked there were 20 agents working either-about 8 in Washington, 5 overseas representatives in the National Student Association, and then representatives of the N.S.A. who were working in the International Student Conference Secretariat abroad.

The year that I worked for N.S.A. there was five hundred thousand dollars, which we took directly from the Central Intelligence Agency.

Uh, there was espionage both on the part of Philip Sherbourne and the person whose office was right next door to him."

CANNON: "What kind of espionage are you talking about?"

WOOD: "Well they went for instance, Fred Berger -- from December 5th to December 12th, went to the Dominican Republic to do an analysis of the relationship between the revolutionary politics of that country and the, uh, university politics. And he did a very complete report, which I've read, uh, which was given to me by Philip Sherbourne, showing to me by Philip Sherbourne, which was replete with dossiers on foreign student leaders, their politics and so forth."

CANNON: "Well, that's not really espionage is it?"

WOOD: "Of course, it's espionage. It's covert. You know if you..."

CANNON: "To get information about student leaders, he got it ..."

WOOD: "He got it under false pretenses. That's what espionage is - it's getting something that people don't want you to get. Just because you're not running around with a cloak and a dagger doesn't mean that you're not doing espionage."

They also controlled the Policy of N.S.A., as an example, in the early-of the '60's of-the C.I.A.'s agents blocked with the Left in N.S.A. at the Congress at the Legislative Plenary to get, uh, resolutions supporting the Cuban Revolution, because at that time the International Student World was absolutely -- it was absolutely critical for them to support the Cuban Revolution because it was looked to as a very progressive move. If they didn't support the Cuban Revolution, then they would not be trusted and confided in by uh, the foreign student leaders they dealt with..."

CANNON: "So the C.I.A. actually wanted the N.S.A. to support the Revolution."

WOOD: "Of course. Because they can't get good cover. That's the whole nature of covering - that you put people out that would be believable and then you use them for devious purposes."

They also controlled the elections and they also intimidated the health of the Officers and Staff during this time..."

CANNON: "How did they intimidate the Officers and Staff?"

WOOD: "Well, first of all they had threatened to destroy my personality, to destroy my reputation, which they in fact started to do until -- in the press -- until..."

CANNON: "By calling you a bearded, beatnik, Leftist, or what."

WOOD: "No, no. That was only Time Magazine did that. There very much more sophisticated, incidentally, than Time Magazine. They simply said that I was a disgruntled Staff Member who had been fired and who was out after revenge against the Association which was all very calculated to, uh..."

CANNON: "Were you fired by N.S.A.?"

WOOD: "With a parting grace. But it was on a Political Issues and not a, you know, it was not a firing -- I was not a after revenge, and all of them knew that..."

CANNON: "Were you fired before or after the disclosure?"

WOOD: "I was fired before the disclosure. But then I did work for N.S.A. too after that..."

CANNON: "Even though you were fired by them?"

WOOD: "But I'll go on, since you don't -- you have a tendency not to believe me, I'll go on to other people..."

CANNON: "You have a tendency not to believe anything the government says so I'm going to use the same..."

WOOD: "(WORD INAUDIBLE) or you. I have reasons."

CANNON: "Well, I, you know (LAUGHS NERVOUSLY)"

WOOD: "Philip Sherbourne, uh, who told me the critical link and the credibility of the story was Philip Sherbourne. The C.I.A. felt that if they could keep Sherbourne, if they could get Sherbourne to deny it all, that they could discredit me and that it would go down as just a 'kook' thing that happened. Uh, Sherbourne went along with them until about a week before the story broke and then he changed his mind - decided that he had to admit it. Uh, when that happened, he went to a lawyer because he was worried about this 20 year prison sentence, but at the same time he felt that it was unconstitutional perhaps. The C.I.A. found out that he went to a lawyer, called the lawyer, and tried to get the lawyer to drop the case. When the lawyer refused to drop the case, they tried to get the lawyer to feed Sherbourne a line, to say, 'Yes, you can get that 20 years'. When he refused to do that, the C.I.A. threatened Sherbourne with the forging of Psychiatric records and the placing of

those Psychiatric records in critical bureaus of the government so that he would be forever excluded from any responsible rôle in the American Government."

CANNON: "In what other ways have they threatened you?"

WOOD: "Well, they haven't threatened me because at this point I can do nothing except propogandize against them. I can no longer spill any more, you know, any new information. I've already gotten out. I've done my major damage. Uh, they did threaten other people at the same time, one person in Washington D.C. who was engaged in activities that were detrimental to the C.I.A.'s image during the whole crisis, was threatened with his life."

CANNON: "Our guest tonight is Michael Wood, former of the Executive Board of the National Student Association. My name is Don Cannon, now it's 8:30 on WBBM, the talk of Chicago. Our phone number is MO 4-8660, we'll be opening our lines in a few minutes, perhaps you can join the conversation with a question or comment to Michael Wood. Now let's pause...

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CANNON: "You gave the information about the N.S.A. to Ramparts Magazine. Now, when Sherbourne, the former President told you about the N.S.A. - C.I.A. link, did he know that you were going to blow the whistle to the Ramparts Magazine and expose the whole thing?"

WOOD: "No. Of course not. He didn't know that, and the circumstances surrounding my knowledge of the C.I.A. are perhaps interesting to you. I had been appointed Director of Development, which meant that my job was program formulation and the negotiations of money which came from private foundations and from certain Governmental Agencies which were open. Uh, it was intended that I would coordinate the entire program - fund raising program - however, during the time that I worked for N.S.A. I was systematically excluded from all negotiations, dealing with the International Program. After about six months, I threatened to resign my post if I were not allowed to assume my full responsibility. Sherbourne, who evidently appreciated my work, uh, in order to prevent my resignation told me why I had not been allowed to do that negotiation - because it was negotiated with the C.I.A. and the C.I.A. had refused to make me an agent."

CANNON: "So when you found this out, you thought it was important that the world should know the C.I.A. was behind the National Student Association. You went to Ramparts Magazine..."

WOOD: "There was a considerable history between that time, which of March of 1966 and when I first went to Ramparts Magazine..."

CANNON: "How much time? A year?"

WOOD: "Which was after the uh, after the -- in December of 1966 which was probably seven months before I went there. During that time, I sought within the Association, to persuade Phil Sherbourne to do what I thought would have been the ideal thing, which was for the Political Leadership of W.S.A. publicly to sever the relationship and publicly to expose the C.I.A. and to raise the sword of -- on behalf of the youth of America, who were really getting the treatment, to raise the sword of doubt for public discussion which an issue of this nature deserves. Uh,...."

CANNON: "What took so long for you to finally announce to Ramparts and to the world that the whole thing was a C.I.A. front?"

WOOD: "Well, I worked for N.S.A. until September, in September after the Congress, I went to Michigan where I managed a State wide Referendum Campaign which I had a special interest in; immediately after that, when I saw that the new Officers were not going to have any better Policy toward the C.I.A. I then went to Ramparts Magazine."

CANNON: "Now, former president, a former president, of the N.S.A. now in Akron, Ohio, Dennis Shaul (Attorney) - he was President '62 to '63 - you're laughing when I say this - but he said 'If I were President now, I would continue to accept C.I.A. funds, the C.I.A. had nothing to do with how the money was spent, there were no strings on us.'"

And another writer, Miss Gloria Steinham (?) who is also involved with the Research Services of the C.I.A. in the '50's, she said, ~~the most important~~ ^{the most important} impact was that, 'It made us unafraid to go ahead and do what we thought was right. It increased - it increased, not diminished - our freedom of action.'

Now these people don't sound like they're particularly uh, jaded or they don't feel like they're being used or corrupted by the C.I.A. Why do you?"

WOOD: "Dennis Shaul (?) made that statement in Washington D.C. after a week of exposures, uh, the Press was universally cynical about the nature of that exposure, at that statement, in fact, it was reported to me by, uh, N.S.A. people who were out there at the Press Conference that they all sort of snickered and said, 'Well, we know who pays him'. The fact of the matter is, that both he and Gloria Steinham (?), again accept the Philosophy of the C.I.A. which is this, that the problems of the world are so complex that it's far beyond the capability of the American people or the Congress to deal with them. That in fact, foreign policy decisions must be lodged in the hands of very exclusive elite, which make those decisions and, uh, ..."

CANNON: "Now wait a minute..."

WOOD: "...the C.I.A..."

CANNON: "O K. Go ahead."

WOOD: "...protect their ability to maintain control over those decisions - they have to lie to the American people. That, unfortunately, in their words, is the realities of International relations."

CANNON: "For..."

WOOD: "What they're saying -- all of that I'm saying in short is that's bunk. It's an out and out total lie. And the fact that -- there is one true statement, there is one true statement that Dennis Shaul (?) said which is that if he had it to do over again he'd do the sametthing."

CANNON: "You do believe something he says. You said the C.I.A. is making foreign policy decisions, now Allen Dulles, who was the first head of the C.I.A. from what, '47 to the Cuban Bay of Pigs..."

WOOD: "He was the second head but he wasn't..."

CANNON: "Alright. Dulles, Admiral Raybourne (?) and now Mr. Helms, all of these people have vehemently denied that the C.I.A. makes policy. They say they simply implement the decisions of the government. You're making the statement that I've never seen before that the C.I.A. is the decision making branch of our foreign policy apparatus and not the State Department."

WOOD: "Uh, in the first place, uh, I have to keep harping on this one fact that the effectiveness of the Central Intelligence Agency is totally dependent upon their cover. Which is to say dependent upon their camouflage to the extent to which they can deceive the Congress, the State Department, the American people about the nature of what they're doing. Uh, that's the first thing..."

CANNON: "Before you deceive -- or talk about any more deception, let me say this about National Food Stores..."

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WOOD: "The second thing is that, I agree to one extent, which is to say that the American Gov -- the basic foreign policy of the American Government is established beyond reproach at this time, and that's the foreign policy free for American investments. I believe that. However, the specific strategic decisions made to implement that policy begin with the Central Intelligence Agency."

The bureaucracy is far too massive, uh, for those decisions to be pushed up to higher levels of political leadership before they're made. So that what happens is that the C.I.A. moves

into a country and begins operations ten years, five years before the American public even knows anything is going on there in that country. By the time the American public finds out about it -- at that point we have a commitment. And that's the word that's always used to justify it. So what happens is that your Democratic prerogatives and my Democratic prerogatives which is to say, access to debate about the policy of the government, is denied because we've developed these commitments in advance. The C.I.A. was in Viet Nam many, many, many years before any of the American people began to be worried about it."

CANNON: "But not making foreign policy decisions. They may have been training mil -- training a police force..."

WOOD: "It seems to me..."

CANNON: "...but that's one thing."

WOOD: "It seems to me -- well, you know Wesley Fischel (?) wrote the constitution for the country -- it seems to me that if they're there at all, they're making foreign policy. It's a foreign policy decision that the United States should intervene in any way in the affairs of the Viet N -- of any people. Uh, but at this point, you don't know what we're doing in Bolivia, you don't know, as I don't know, what we're doing in Peru, we don't know what we're doing in Adan. But the C.I.A. is there..."

CANNON: "Well, wait. You don't know what we're doing, how do you know they're there?"

WOOD: "Well because I know where N.S.A. was and I know that they were in places like that. N.S.A. International Representatives actually were -- werebuying elections in Latin American Student Unions."

CANNON: "Buying?"

WOOD: "Buying, bribing. That's sophisticating an operation; what was described by the American Press as a subsidy of apple-cheeked American children who were off presenting the American viewpoint abroad, was really a multi-million dollar patronage system, in which the United States systematically bought what foreign student leadership it could and then created foreign student leadership, uh, foreign student leadership in areas that they couldn't buy it. A massive patronage system that ran into millions of dollars a year which N.S.A. served as the, uh, bureaucrats to implement."

CANNON: "Michael Wood is my guest, he's a former member of the Executive Board of the National Student Association. Our number is MO 4-8660 for your calls and comments. Don't forget..."

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CANNON: "Mr. Wood you said that the National Student Association has been -- was funded by the C.I.A. but you also said that the C.I.A. has a primary purpose, uh, to make the world safe for U.S. investments...you said the primary purpose of the C.I.A. is to make the world safe for American investment. Well since the C.I.A. is a relatively new organization, it's only 20 years old. We didn't have a C.I.A. before, well, uh, who made or what made the world safe for big investments before the C.I.A.?"

WOOD: "Well, we didn't have nearly the massive investments we have, then. The United States does have a long tradition dating back to the 19th Century of gun-boat diplomacy in Latin America, in which the Marines were sent in there, and consistently into foreign countries to, to overthrow governments or to protect governments. So, in previous days we had much less subtle, much less sophisticated mechanisms for providing that protection. Today we have a huge, vast, very complex, very subtle, mechanism that reaches into every phase of an individual's life, to provide that protection. It's the same policy, it's just better implemented. Uh, I wonder, if I might, try to explain to you what I find so morally obnoxious..."

CANNON: "Please do."

WOOD: "During the period of time in which, uh, in which the C.I.A. as opposed to Military Intelligence, uh, was involved in N.S.A., and I should make that point clear, that Military Intelligence was involved in the constituting of the National Student Association in 1946, and provided the funds for its first delegations abroad. But during those 30 -- those 15 years since 1952 the C.I.A. lost maybe one or two, at the most three, elections of 30 critical elections within the National Student Association, they exercised that much control over the, the operations of the organization."

The reason they did it was that the overseas operations of N.S.A. were so important to the foreign policy of the United States, that they could not afford to lose control of the apparatus that implemented it. Well, what that amounts to, is that in the name of the Cold War, and they regret it and they're not comfortable about it, but they go ahead and do it, in the name of the Cold War, they denied me and they denied thousands of students across the country to their basic right of representation by the National Student Association. Because in fact that National Student Association was serving not the students which constituted its base but was serving the United States Government - was serving the C.I.A. That -- you see -- so, so here I am, I'm sitting here fuming with rage about it because I was -- you know, this was a vehicle in which I invested my youth, I invested a great deal of my idealism, I find out that what I was doing indirectly was pimping for the United States Government..."

CANNON: "Well, that's a pretty strong charge - pimping for the United States Government..."

WOOD: "I'm sorry ..."

CANNON: "No. I don't mind. Make the charge. Don't apologize."

WOOD: "That's what I -- I wasn't pimping, I was -- consciously -- but that's in fact what I was doing because I do not believe in what I was doing."

CANNON: "You're fuming with rage..."

WOOD: "Wait, wait, I've got a point..."

CANNON: "Alright."

WOOD: "...it's this. How do you think, and they don't control N.S.A. because they just enjoy controlling N.S.A., they control N.S.A. because they need that organization to control other organizations abroad. They do the same thing in the Labor Movement, they do the same thing in all sorts of organizations in the United States. How do you think the people of Viet Nam or of the Dominican Republic feel? What it did to me was only deny my representation -- what it does to the peasants in Viet Nam is to deny them their land, deny them their villages, cause the death of their children..."

CANNON: "How does this denying them their land -- the death of their children..."

WOOD: "It's the policy of control. The United States has this fundamentally arrogant notion that it has the right to control anything and anybody to implement it's foreign policy. You see, and that -- they control me and I represent -- the National Student Association represented the flower of American youth. The flower of American students. Had stu. -- the staff was made up of Student Body Presidents..."

CANNON: "I don't think the flower has necessarily wilted. Of all the colleges in the National Student Association very, very few dropped out and in fact they've gained members recently. I think the figure was 2. So apparently this rage is not felt by most members of the N.S.A."

WOOD: "That's because of the very clever workings of the Press in the United States. The very clever workings of the United States Government, uh, have not allowed the truth to get to the American people."

CANNON: "That you and a few..."

WOOD: "Compare my story (WORDS INAUDIBLE - VOICES OVERLAPPING)"

CANNON: "Well, again, I don't know, everybody that I bring up who supports the N.S.A. or the C.I.A. you say they're not"

getting the truth, that, I-wondering if you have some pipe line that's direct to the truth."

WOOD: "Yes. I did have a pipe line. Which is to say that they told -- that Phil Sherbourne told me the truth which he would never tell in public."

CANNON: "Well the fact is that thousands of members of the N.S.A. knew or know now of the C.I.A. link and they don't seem to nearly as upset as you are."

WOOD: "It's because they don't understand it."

CANNON: "You're saying that all of these students are stupid?"

WOOD: "No. They don't understand the facts, they don't understand that it meant the control of election, they don't understand that it meant the control of policy, they don't understand that N.S.A. is actually set up -- setting up counter revolution or doing espionage in the Student Leadership World which later got -- moved into governmental power, and that a -- they don't understand that N.S.A. was bringing foreign students to this country on scholarship in order that the C.I.A. might convert them to agents for this government so that when they went back and into revolutionary movements abroad that they served our interests rather than those..."

CANNON: "Well, hasn't the Soviet Union been doing the same thing?"

WOOD: "Well, that's like saying that just because there's a cancer in the world that we ought to add - ought to add leprosy to it and that might cure it."

CANNON: "No. What I'm saying is that the name of the ball game has been spy and counter-spy since time memorial and you're saying that we should just simply drop out of the spy game and let everybody else play except us."

WOOD: "No. What I'm saying is that we -- yes, what I'm saying is that we ought to drop out of the spy game, exactly."

CANNON: "Well, aren't you forgetting..."

WOOD: "Because I believe that people have the fundamental right to rule themselves and their own institutions."

CANNON: "I'm not denying that, I would agree with you, but again, the very nature of the world we live in, doesn't it demand that some secret organization of some type -- aren't you forgetting some of the successes of the C.I.A., uh..."

WOOD: "Name some."

CANNON: "Well, how about Red China's explosion of the Nuclear Bomb, the C.I.A. pinpointed this long before it was dropped..."

WOOD: "Did it prevent the explosion?"

CANNON: "It didn't prevent the explosion but it gave us the information about it, uh..."

WOOD: "But you see, that's no help to us. The only help -- the only real thing that an organ -- that, uh, a governmental agency can do about this is bring about some sort of friendship with the Chinese people, so that when they explode their bigger bombs and develop the missiles they don't shoot them at us."

CANNON: "Well, in '62, they -- C.I.A. successfully wire-tapped the, uh, Soviet Army Headquarters in East Germany. Now this may sound repugnant to you, but it was this wire-tapping which led to the big break in the '62 Cuban Missile Crisis. This was a worthwhile achievement."

WOOD: "No, I don't, I mean because the United States was applying a double standard in that situation. What was -- what was wrong about the United States -- was wrong about the Missile Crisis, was that the United States didn't believe that the Soviet Union had any right to have Missiles 30 miles from it's borders. But the fact of the matter is that the United States surrounds the Soviet Union with Missiles -- in close proximity."

CANNON: "Well, I know, everybody knows that. But the fact of the matter is that at that time the Soviet Union was trying to change the power balance of the world as it was, that was the significance of the..."

WOOD: "Truly."

CANNON: "You don't think it was a valid thing then that we found out in the nick of time that, uh, -- what their policies were up to and then came out of it looking good?"

WOOD: "Looking good is not important. Peace in the world is important."

CANNON: "Well, I didn't mean looking good in that senses but it was a moral and ideological victory for us, I think."

WOOD: "It was an ideal -- practical victory in an ideological war, uh, in which I think that perhaps we are not serving our interests. That's what I'm saying. Our interests I believe, are the interests of the rest of the people of the world, which is to say that we maintain the policy strictly committed to the self determination of all people. We're not committed to that policy. If we buy elections in Latin American Student Unions, what do you think we'll do the regular

governments of those countries? What do you think we'll do to the Labor Unions? We know we control Labor Unions throughout the world. Is that self determination? It's not.

CANNON: "But again, you know, even to helping refugees escape from East Germany, from East Berlin, they have some big tunnels, do you oppose people escaping to freedom?"

WOOD: "That's a ridiculous question. Do I oppose people escaping from freedom..."

CANNON: "Escaping to freedom."

WOOD: "Of course, I do not oppose..."

CANNON: "Then you would base...."

WOOD: "No, no, no..."

CANNON: "...this particular - legitimate function of the C.I.A."

WOOD: "No. I'm not saying that. I'm not saying that. I'm saying that I think there are other ways to bring about those freedoms that we want for those people."

CANNON: "But you prefer to leave the people in East Germany - then let them escape."

WOOD: "I prefer a policy which makes the exploitation of the East German people to that extent that it exists unnecessary..."

CANNON: "You're saying that all of this is our fault though..."

WOOD: "What?"

CANNON: "You talk like all of this is our fault..."

WOOD: "No, no..."

CANNON: "...the exploitation of the East German people is our doing."

WOOD: "No. I'm not saying that what-so-ever. What I'm saying is that we have an alternative -- methods of relating to those people. It seems to me that in the history of mankind, the enjoyment of Civil Liberties, the enjoyment of political freedoms has been very closely related to the economics of those societies, which is to say the richer the societies have been the freer they have been and if you really want to help the East German people, what you do is, you help build economy in those countries. If you..."

CANNON: "In the meantime, if any of them want to escape we shouldn't help them."

WOOD: "If they want to escape -- of course -- I mean we shouldn't muck around with their borders. It's their business, if the people are oppressed, they'll rise up and throw off their own shackles..."

CANNON: "They tried that once and the Russians..."

WOOD: "That's right."

CANNON: "...foiled that in '53 it was."

WOOD: "Yeah. And I opposed that."

CANNON: "Well, I'm glad you oppose something."

WOOD: "The question is, what do you think about the Negro people in the United States? Do the Russians have the right to come into the United States, interfering in our Domestic affairs to provide freedom for the Negro people. You can't believe the Negro people have freedom in this country."

CANNON: "Well I don't know if there's a direct one to one analogy between the people who are walled in East Germany, East Berlin and what's happening in the United States today..."

WOOD: "Are not the people of Harlem walled in? Have they not revolted? Have they not rioted? Have they not shot at their oppressors, which are the police and the firemen? Is not the analogy accurate?"

CANNON: "No I don't think it's accurate. I think there's some comparisons but I don't think it's a one to one analogy. It's coming up to seven minutes before nine on the talk of Chicago. Our number is MO 4-8660. I think, after we pause,..."

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CANNON: "Micaiah Wood is my guest. He's former member of the Executive Board of the National Student Association. We're at MO 4-8660. Can I take it then that you think the C.I.A. performs, has performed, no useful function, no useful service in the United States, in our National interest whatsoever, in the past -- since it's existed?"

WOOD: "Yes, you can assume that. I think the C.I.A. has been a great detriment to the American people. What it has been perhaps the single most prominent instrument in marring our relations with the peoples of the world. I ask you to take a look at the evidence. I ask you to go to the Latin American people and ask your -- them what they think about the (WORD INAUDIBLE) about the gringo about the American people. They hate us. You know that..."

CANNON: "Because of the C.I.A.?"

WOOD: "It's because -- it's because..."

CANNON: "They hated us before we even had a C.I.A. "

WOOD: "Well it's because we -- the United States, whatever instrument is at it's command, primarily the C.I.A. has systematically controlled those societies and kept them poor. That's why they hate us, because we promote Military Coups, because we overthrow Democratic or elected governments, we -- those are perfectly documented. We overthrew the Chetti Jaden (?) government in British Guinea, we overthrew the Odes Gushman (?) government in Guatamala, it goes on and on and on. It's now known we put about 20 million dollars into the election of Edward Ofrai (?) in Chile, uh, If I were -- if you were there -- how would you feel, if you found out, I don't know what Political Party you belong to,..."

CANNON: "I belong to the Vegetarian Party."

WOOD: "O K. If you found out that the uh, the uh, C.I.A. had come in and put 20 million dollars into the Meat-eater Party, uh, you would be pretty upset if that..."

CANNON: "I'd be furious..."

WOOD: "I'll presume that you're a Democrat and that the C.I.A. put 20 million dollars into the Republican Party, you'd be upset and so too, are the people of Chile. And so too are the people throughout the world who no longer appreciate the United States intervening in their own domestic affairs. They're capable, they're intelligent, they're human beings, who have an inherent right, as defined in our own Declaration of Independence, to self government."

CANNON: "I'm not arguing against self government. My position is simply this that the British have their secret service, the Russians have their K.B.G., every country in the world, every country in the world has it's security apparatus. But you want us to drop out and simply have none. And how can we survive in the Cold War, and we have a Cold War, or the world as it is today, with no security apparatus?"

WOOD: "It doesn't seem to me that the Uruguan people or the people of the Dominican Republic are threatening us. The Chinese people are not threatening us. The North Viet Nameese people are not threatening us. When they start loading Chinese people on boats, with big guns and start them toward the United States, then I think we ought to get concerned. But until such time, I think we ought to adhere to our own principles, as defined in our own American tradition, which is that we allow people their basic right to self determination..."

CANNON: "You sound like an Isolationist."

WOOD: "That's right. I'm a - I'm a Isolationist."

CANNON: "Why is it that 25 years ago all of the Isolationists were conservative but not in the far right and most of the Internationalists were on the left. Now it's the other way around - the Isolationists are on the left and the Internationalists are on the right."

WOOD: "I think that the important thing that you pointed up is that in the previous situation the left was correct. I would suggest that perhaps again the left is correct because the conditions under which we live and the peril which we face is -- perils which we face -- are entirely different. Thirty years ago we faced a maniac in Germany, uh, a man who ended up incinerating 6 million Jews, who tried to conquer Europe. We don't face that now."

CANNON: "Well, thirty years ago would you be saying, 'Now wait a minute, let's not, let's not get up tight about the Germans too much. Let's wait until the Germans are bombing England, let's wait till the Germans are on our shore.' Would you be saying this or would you have been more, uh, have more insight in those days, and by the same token I can't see that Germans now is particularly in love with us. I think if they had a Navy they probably would indeed. They're developing Missiles. I mean, are we going to have to wait until they're on our front doors before we do anything or..."

WOOD: "That's because he's deathly afraid that the United -- and rightly so, I believe, that the United States has basically, has aggressive instincts toward China. Look at where the Chinese -- look -- try to analyze how many foreign countries China has armies in and then ask yourself how many countries does the United States have armies in. The United States has armies in over 70 foreign countries. That's fantastic."

CANNON: "Most of them have asked us to be there."

WOOD: "Well, yes, most of them..."

CANNON: "All of them have asked us to be there."

WOOD: "The Uncle Tom governments of all of those countries have asked us to be there."

CANNON: "Of all the world governments, and there are only 120 including the smallest, that 70, more than half the world governments are Uncle Tom's?"

WOOD: "I'm afraid that that's true. And if -- why did they ask us to be there?"

CANNON: "I don't know why they asked us to be there. I couldn't recite the reasons that 70 governments invited us to be there but I'm sure that some of the reasons must be valid. It can't be all of the governments Uncle Tom, as you say. Is the West German government an Uncle Tom government?"

WOOD: "Let's make a distinction between Western European government and the governments of the third world. Now the Western European governments have certain experiences, uh, which motivate their requests for troops. I think the West German people perhaps have those experiences. However, if you look at Latin American countries -- the only people they could dare ask us to protect them from would be the United States. You look at -- if you look at SouthEast Asia, who are we protecting SouthEast Asia from? Does Ho Chi Minh regard, uh, the Chinese people as his enemy? Do the peasants of Viet Nam regard Chinese people as their enemy at this point? The people they regard as their enemy is the United States."

CANNON: "Well, I haven't talked to all the people in Viet Nam. I can't make that statement. Have You?"

WOOD: "I can -- all I can do is read the books that are available on the market, uh, generalizing how -- the reason that we did not have elections in Viet Nam in 1956, was that if free election had been held 80% of the people would have voted for Ho Chi Minh. We didn't allow a basic Democratic process because we knew we'd lose. The fact of the matter is that when we marched into France during the Second World War and liberated the French people they came out into the streets, they embraced us and hugged us. Now the people are fighting a grass roots (?) guerilla warfare in Viet Nam against us. If they really wanted to be liberated, they would be liberated. They would come out and fight on our side. The fact of the matter is and the American Military Establishment admits it, that the South Vietnamese Army is one of the most poorly motivated armies in the world. They don't care to fight and it's because basically the cause of the South Vietnamese Army and the United States Army is fighting is unjust."

Whereas, the morale of the National Liberation Front is incredible, the most mighty country in the history of the world, the most mighty industrial nation, fire-power beyond belief, cannot squelch a peasant army, very poorly armed. It's very hard for me to understand."

CANNON: "WBBM, the talk of Chicago. So the C.I.A. for all it's insidiousness, it's not been all that effective in Viet Nam. They have trained the police force, they have trained certain South Vietnamese in American guerilla and Green Beret Units."

WOOD: "That's right. They weren't that effective, uh, that speaks more about the effectiveness of the National Liberation Front, the Vietnamese before them. One of the C.I.A.'s intentions were to be effective. Their intentions were to expand and continue to be, to control that government, to control the elections, uh, not because they don't want to be effective, but they're not."

CANNON: "At this point let me just part briefly. It's ten minutes past nine here in Chicago. And if you're calling from out of town the area code is 312. Locally we're at MO 48660. Michael Wood is my guest. Let's pause for these words and then we'll open our phonelines to you for your calls and comments."

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CANNON: "Hello, you're on WBEM go ahead please."

CALLER: "I'm calling from Michigan. I have a question and a comment and I will be brief. I should like to know if your young guest would have the privilege of speaking freely, as he has on your program, if he were in a Communistic controlled country? Would you answer yes or no please."

WOOD: "Yes, I will. It depends upon which Communistic controlled country that you belong with. Uh..."

CALLER: "Would you tell me one?"

WOOD: "Yes. Cuba. The fact of the matter is that the people..."

CALLER: "Cuba. Well, let's disregard Cuba. What other..."

CANNON: "You asked him for one country... (VOICES OVERLAPPING)"

CALLER: "I don't call this a country. What other countries?"

CANNON: "Well let's not get into a hang about International Relations. Cuba is country like it or not..."

CALLER: "What other ones besides Cuba?"

WOOD: "I think in North Viet Nam the people have very..."

CALLER: "You call that a country too."

WOOD: "Of course I do..."

CALLER: "What about Russia?"

WOOD: "Russia? I think the people are gaining a greater access to the..."

CALLER: "Could you get on the program and speak as freely as you have tonight?"

CANNON: "Well let me just say this in his defense, I have no doubts whatsoever if he went to Russia and said what he said tonight they'd love it."

WOOD: "That's not in my defense and you know it."

CALLER: "Oh, of course. I mean, if you said about Russia to the Russians what you are saying about our country, and if you like Russia and the communist countries, well, why don't you go there?"

WOOD: "I don't particularly like the Russians, I mean, I like the Russians, but I don't particularly like the state of Russia at this point, and I don't think that they enjoy the civil liberties that I would like to enjoy."

CALLER: "All right, now..."

WOOD: "Now wait a second now. In a perfectly, you know, capitalistic country like South Africa or Spain which this government supports, people do not have their civil liberties and cannot speak so freely either."

CALLER: "Well I don't call those perfect capitalistic countries. However, I'm calling Long Distance and I don't think I can get into a discussion with you. However, I wanted to tell Mr. Cannon that I have always respected him and his program immensely, and I know that Mr. Cannon has delayed programming, and I am amazed to feel that WBBM would permit you to use the term 'pimping' for our glorious country. This I don't understand, because I know people have been cut off for less."

WOOD: "I suggest you go down on Woodward Avenue and you'll see lots of pimping."

CANNON: "Well, you know, we -- ah -- I'm not here to make moral value judgements on what Mr. -- on how -- what terminology Mr. Wood uses. It is not technically in violation of any laws or any rules..."

CALLER: "No, but don't you -- don't you cut off any..."

CANNON: "Now wait a minute. It may be in bad taste, but I'm not gonna be a judge of Mr. Wood's taste. I only cut off words that are offensive or swear words, curse words."

CALLER: "Oh, well I think this is -- I think this is the worst word in the English language, and pertaining to our glorious country I'm disappointed Mr. Cannon."

CANNON: "Well, the Federal Communications Commission does not define it as profanity and we'll have to let it go at that. Okay?"

CALLER: "Okay. Thank you."

CANNON: "Thank you very much. Although it is a four letter word, isn't it? Hmm. Well, maybe it'll be added to the list in weeks to come. Mohawk 4-8660 on WBBM, the talk of Chicago. Hello, you're on the air, go ahead please."

CALLER: "Hello?"

CANNON: "Yes, you're on the air."

CALLER: "Um, I was -- I've been pretty interested in this controversy about N.S.A. all this past year because I was an N.S.A. coordinator last year and attended the National Congress. And I agree with Mr. Wood in that -- in that this N.S.A.-C.I.A. disclosure was rather unfortunate, but I don't understand why he made it public after the president, Sherbourne, this past year had made all efforts to separate N.S.A. from the C.I.A. finances. He was trying to raise money by himself for N.S.A., and I don't see why he disclosed this to the public at a time when it would hurt N.S.A. so much."

WOOD: "That's a very good question, I'm glad you asked it. I, in fact, encouraged Phil at a time when he was not at all sure that he wanted to break with the C.I.A. to seek separate sources of support and to try to develop independence from the Central Intelligence Agency. I also encouraged him to expose the relationship and for this reason, which is, that at the time that I was told and that we were having conversations about the relationship, I knew that not simply the National Student Association but the United States Youth Council, Independent Research Corporation, the entire labor movement, World Assembly of Youth, the International Student Conference, they go on and on, I knew, you know, who masses-of organizations. I knew personally probably ten, twelve organizations which were connected with a very small part of the C.I.A. bureaucracy. The importance of disclosing it publically was to array -- rise -- to arise in the American people a discussion of the nature of that relationship. Because it is not simply -- if it had been simply with the United States National Student Association terminating the relationship would have been sufficient, but the fact of the matter is that it's in the churches, in the labor unions, in the student organizations, in the business community overseas. It pervades the entire society and undermines our basic democratic freedoms. That's why it was important to understand N.S.A. as a case study, not as a -- as an exception -- a corrupt exception to a basically clean system."

CALLER: "Well, are you satisfied now with N.S.A. after these breaks have been made?"

WOOD: "Well, that's very difficult to say. I mean, N.S.A. did not tell the whole truth. They may -- what they said to the press was carefully planned with the Central Intelligence Agency in six meetings held at the house -- may have been only four -- of Robert Kiley, who was the primary C.I.A. agent who was their -- their direct boss. Those -- and they negotiated a deal on what they would admit and what they wouldn't admit. And Robert Katzenbach, who later was appointed to investigate this thing was in on those conversations by telephone. So -- and the primary deal that N.S.A. was making was the protection of their draft deferments at that time."

CALLER: "Well..."

WOOD: "So I mean, the principle -- the extent -- to the extent that I judge what N.S.A. is doing I have to judge from the fact that they're still not telling the truth, whether or not their involvement in the C.I.A. at this time I can't say, but they're still not telling the truth about the relationship."

CALLER: "Oh, you didn't agree, then, with the National Supervisory -- Supervisory Board's report."

WOOD: "Given the limitations that the National Supervisory Board operated under, which is to say, depending entirely upon evidence from officers who had a vested interest in toning down the story I think the National Supervisory Board came up with a remarkable report. I think that they surely ought to be commended on it. But that was the result of the candor or the honesty of the officers."

CANNON: "Thank you very much for your call."

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CHICAGO

CANNON: "Now, let's get back to your call at Mohawk 4-8660. You're on the air now with Michael Wood. Go ahead please."

CALLER: "Hello, Mr. Wood."

WOOD: "Yes sir."

CALLER: "Were you ever in the CIA?"

WOOD: "No, they refused to make me an agent so I was technically never was and not now an agent."

CALLER: "Well, you say they refused. Were you--did you want to be at the time?"

WOOD: "Well, I didn't even know that NSA was a front for the CIA. I didn't think the possibility existed. When I found out, it was the most incredible thing that I ever learned. An organization which supported Black Power, an organization which called for, you know, an end to the war in Viet Nam essentially, an organization that supported the admission of Red China to the UN. Such an organization front for the CIA. That was incredible to me. It never occurred to me that I might have an opportunity to be an agent."

CALLER: "You quoted a CIA policy, is that your version or is that really their policy?"

WOOD: "Which policy?"

CALLER: "Earlier in the show."

WOOD: "Oh, you mean the Cuban--in respect to Cuba."

CALLER: "Oh, I beg your pardon, the overall policy of the CIA, you quoted earlier and I wondered if that was your version."

WOOD: "Of course, that's my interpretation of what they're doing."

CALLER: "I see."

WOOD: "Uh--"

CANNON: "It's not the government's interpretation by the way."

CALLER: "No."

WOOD: "...If it were the policy of the United States, it would not be in the interest of the government to tell the American people about it."

CALLER: "I wouldn't think so. What per cent of the NSA members are actively involved in CIA activities?"

WOOD: "Well, NSA technically doesn't have--is not technically a membership organization. The constituent base is the student government. So, the individuals cannot join. The staff of NSA, it has a staff and

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that's the relevant consideration. Now, we had about thirty programs passed for the National Student Association the year that I worked."

CANNON: "Um hum."

WOOD: "Perhaps twenty five. About nine of them were agents of the Central Intelligence Agency. That was the staff in Washington DC. All the people who represented NSA overseas with the possible exception of one person, this last year, but all the full time representatives of NSA overseas were agents."

CALLER: "All the representatives?"

WOOD: "Yes."

CALLER: "How many is that?"

WOOD: "That's like, well, there are approximately during--four or five overseas representatives and then there were people who worked on the staff or were officers in the International Student Conference in Brussels, Belgium, which was sort of the western oriented sort of the student counterpart of NATO, which all the western oriented unions belonged and student unions from third world countries. All those people who worked there were."

CANNON: "Thank you very much for the call and hope to see you at the movies tonight."

CALLER: "I have another question if I can."

CANNON: "Well, if you make it quick, we have to run along."

CALLER: "Quickly. If you weren't in the CIA how are you such an expert on it, the CIA?"

WOOD: "Because the President of NSA in order to prevent my resignation told me about the relationship. At that point of course, he told me something so incredible he could not--just say, 'that's all I'm going to tell you,' because I would have been, out of curiosity of course,"

CALLER: "I think you've done a disservice to the whole country and certainly..."

WOOD: "I want to answer your question before you make your comment."

CALLER: "Certainly, sorry."

WOOD: "For five months we discussed in great detail the relationship and, I mean, that's how I got my information basically."

CALLER: "Well, I think you've done a real disservice to the whole country but I think you've sold your friends down the river for your own personal aggrandizement. I think you're very immature."

WOOD: "I'm sorry that you believe."

CALLER: "I think you're very intelligent and articulate, but, I think your naive face shows and you hide behind these democratic prerogatives that you think--have been denied you."