Borkwaife 3/19/6,

LETTERS

The following letter written by Carroll G. Bowen, Director of The M.T. Press, is in response to Geoffrey Wolff's article, "Government Book Control," which appeared in Book Week, Feb. 5.

-The Editors

Dear Mr. Wolff:

In your article, "Governmental Book Control," The M.I.T. Press is cited on the authority, as you have informed me, of individuals within the C.I.A. itself, as a publisher through which governmental agencies, such as the U.S.I.A. and the Central Intelligence Agency, "influence opinion." Permit me to correct your information.

The M.I.T. Press, the book publishing imprint of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is a university press. Like other university publishers in the English-speaking world, its imprint is reserved for those scholarly or educative works which in the estimate of schol-arly or academic critics at M.I.T. or at other institutions lend substantive contributions or utility to a specific inquiry. The substance of each manuscript, along with such critical evaluations, is considered by an M.I.T. faculty Board, and only those works approved by this Board are published by The M.I.T. Press.

To infer that any funding agency, government or otherwise, dictates the selection of titles published by this, or any other, university press confuses the support of research with the privilege of publication. Funding agencies support research of their choice. University publishers publish scholarship of their determination.

Over the years M.I.T.'s Center for International Studies has produced more than 100

books of which The M.I.T. Press has been proud to have published 26, ranging in subject matter from studies related to international communism to problems of national economic development. These books have been accepted for publication by the same process and on the same critical basis as our other publications. Moreover, cursory review of any of these titles obviously would have revealed the full identity and qualifications of author or authors, and full citation of open and available sources.

In short, The M.I.T. Press has no role in the procedure you rightly decry. I beg you to so inform your informants.

CARROLL G. BOWEN Director, M.I.T. Press