

Dean Says White House Put a 'Friend' in C.I.A.

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WASHINGTON, June 25 - John W. Dean 3d testified today that he had been told by a top Nixon aide that the White House had put its own "good friend" into the Central Intelligence Agency in order to "have some influence over the agency."

That "good friend," Mr. Dean told the Senate Watergate committee, is Lieut. Gen. Vernon A. Walters, Deputy Director of the C.I.A. and frequent interpreter for President Nixon on foreign trips.

This latest disclosure of alleged White House efforts to involve the C.I.A. in domestic activities came amid increasing demands by Congress for tighter control over the top secret agency.

Within the last few weeks, former and present officials of the C.I.A. have trooped to Capitol Hill in unprecedented numbers to be questioned for hours at a time upon the agency's role in the Watergate affair.

Out of these harings by both Senate and House committees and subcommittees have come startling revelations of C.I.A. cooperation with the White House on strictly domestic operations—a field that its own charter would seemingly rule out of bounds.

And out of these hearings have come equally stunning accounts of White House efforts to enlist C.I.A. aid in covering up the Watergate scandals.

Shoulder the Blame

Mr. Dean's testimony today supported earlier accounts by General Walters and other C.I.A. officials of White House efforts to get the agency to shoulder the blame for the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate complex last June 17.

At the same time, the Dean testimony appeared to shed light on what had been a publicly unanswered question: Why had the White House passed over Richard M. Helms, at that time Director of Central Intelligence, to negotiate almost solely with his deputy on the Watergate matter?

Mr. Dean testified that, a few days after the Watergate break-in, L. Patrick Gray, then acting Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, suggested to him that it might



Gen. Vernon A. Walters

in the Deputy Director position so they could have some influence over the agency," Mr. Dean testified.

Assurance for Ehrlichman

Mr. Dean said he later informed Mr. Ehrlichman that General Walters had assured him that agency involvement in the Watergate was impossible.

Mr. Dean said that Mr. Ehrlichman responded by saying "something to the effect that General Walters seems to have forgotten how he got where he is today."

A spokesman for the C.I.A. said that General Walters would have no comment on the Dean testimony.

Shocked by these and other disclosures, Congressional critics and supporters alike are now calling for stern measures to assert firmer control over the agency.

Won House Approval

Just last week, the first move to curb C.I.A. activities came with House approval of a ban on agency assistance to domestic law enforcement agencies. The Senate has not acted.

The provision, sponsored by Representative Elizabeth Holtzman, Democrat of Brooklyn, was promoted by disclosures that agency employes had been training police officers in New York City and other cities in clandestine activities.

Mike Mansfield, Democrat of Montana, the Senate majority leader, plans to renew his unsuccessful drive of many years ago to establish a joint Senate-House committee to oversee operations of the C.I.A. and other Government intelligence agencies.

Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri, the acting chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has said that he will conduct a full-scale investigation of the evolving "secret charter" under which the agency has operated since its establishment 25 years ago.

There are also proposals to revise the agency's basic law either to outlaw domestic operations specifically or to require that any such domestic involvement be permitted only upon the personal request of the President.

Domestic Activities Barred

The National Security Act of 1947, under which the intelligence agency was created, was designed to prohibit it from conducting domestic operations by stating that it "shall have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement or internal security functions."

But the act also contains two major loopholes:

First, it gives the Director of Central Intelligence the responsibility of "protecting intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure."

Second, the act gives the agency authority "to perform

have been a C.I.A. operation because of the number of former agency people involved.

Mr. Dean said that he later told John D. Ehrlichmann, the President's domestic affairs adviser, of Mr. Gray's suggestion and that Mr. Ehrlichmann told him to call the agency and explore the matter.

"He then told me that I should deal with General Walters because he was a good friend of the White House and the White House had put him

such other functions and duties relating to intelligence" as the National Security Council, an arm of the Presidency, "may from time to time direct."

Furthermore, secret executive orders, interpreting the National Security Act, have been issued through the years, creating what some call the C.I.A.'s "secret charter," now the target of Senator Symington's planned investigation.

While earlier efforts to assert greater Congressional control over the C.I.A. were successfully blocked by successive Administrations, the recent disclosures in the Watergate affair have stunned Congress.

Cushman Agreed

Among the disclosures were the following:

¶In the summer of 1971 Gen. Robert A. Cushman, at that time deputy director of the agency and now commandant of the Marine Corps, agreed to a White House request to supply E. Howard Hunt Jr. with a wig, false identification papers and other items later used in burglarizing the California office of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist.

¶Scarcely weeks later, Mr. Helms, then director of the agency and now Ambassador to Iran, agreed to another White House request for preparation of a psychological profile of Dr. Ellsberg, who was later indicted for leaking the secret Pentagon papers on American involvement in Southeast Asia.

¶Mr. Helms and General Walters, the deputy director of the agency, have told of Mr. Ehrlichman, two of President Nixon's top aides, to persuade the agency to halt an inquiry by the Federal Bureau of Investigation into Nixon reelection campaign funds that were channeled through a Mexico City bank to hide their source. Some of these funds were found on the persons of the men caught breaking into the Democratic National Committee headquarters.

¶General Walters also has told of efforts by Mr. Dean to get the C.I.A. involved in a further cover-up of the Watergate affair by asking the agency to pay bail and salaries for the jailed burglars.