

CIA (DOMESTIC)
SF Examiner

'CIA spied

DEC 22 1974
on 10,000

Americans'

Associated Press

Sunday ed., do not have.
NEW YORK — The Central Intelligence Agency spied on antiwar activists and other dissident groups and kept intelligence files on 10,000 Americans during the late 1960s and early 1970s, the New York Times reported today.

The story, by Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Seymour Hersh, said the "massive illegal domestic intelligence operation" violated the CIA's charter. Domestic security is left to the FBI.

The Times said several sources insisted that all domestic CIA operations against Americans have ceased.

Quoting several unnamed sources, including high-level elected, appointed and career government officials, the Times said that at least one vocally antiwar congressman was among those under surveillance. It said other congressmen were included in its dossier on dissidents. None was named.

The CIA recruited plants, double agents and informers to infiltrate some militant dissident groups, the newspaper said.

According to the Times, former CIA Director James R. Schlesinger found when

he took over the agency from Richard Helms that other illegal activities such as break-ins, wiretapping and secret inspection of mail went back to the 1950s. Schlesinger is now secretary of defense and Helms is ambassador to Iran.

The past and present CIA officials mentioned in the story could not be reached for comment. A CIA spokesman said, "We really feel that until we've seen the full text of the article we don't want to make any comment."

According to the story, the present CIA director, William Colby, last year informed the chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence subcommittees — Rep. Lucien Nedzi, D-Mich., and Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss. of the domestic intelligence activities.

Nedzi declined to comment until he could read the story.

High-ranking intelligence officials contended that activities were initiated in the belief that foreign governments and foreign espionage may have been involved in antiwar activities.

"Look, that's how it started. They were looking for evidence of foreign involvement in the antiwar movement. But that's not how it ended up. This just grew and mushroomed internally," the Times quoted one source as saying. He added:

"This wasn't a series of isolated events. It was highly coordinated. People were targeted, information was collected on them, and it was all put on computer tape, just like the agency does with information about the K.G.B. (Soviet) agents.