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The CIA Linked To Foreign Police



Jack Anderson

THE INVESTIGATION of the Central Intelligence Agency will focus, among other things, on its links to foreign police forces.

In past columns, we have reported that the CIA has penetrated foreign police forces through programs which bring policemen to this country for special training.

We got hold of a letter last August from CIA chief William Colby, telling how "relationships" built up with policemen through these programs had been useful in "obtaining foreign intelligence" from foreign constabularies.

The friendly foreign cops, like national police everywhere, are privy to their nation's darkest secrets. Police contacts have slipped some of these secrets, according to our sources, to the CIA.

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NEW EVIDENCE has come to light, for example, that the CIA has given undercover support to the International Police Academy. During the past 11 years, more than 5000 foreign cops have passed through the doors of Washington's old streetcar garage, known as the "Car Barn," where the IPA is housed.

They have come from 77 governments, ranging from Brazil and Chile to South Korea and South Vietnam. Some of those trained have returned home to help keep dictators in power.

Senator James Abourezk, (Dem-S.D.), has fired off a private letter to three congressional committees asking them to in-

vestigate the CIA-IPA connection.

He told of his own 18-month study. He learned from this, for example, that foreign policemen were trained "in bomb-making in a remote desert camp in Texas." Some of the training, wrote the senator, was provided by "CIA instructors."

"In addition to the bomb school," charged Abourezk, "we have learned that the (IPA) graduates also attend a school of Psychological Operations at Fort Bragg, N.C. . . . I am convinced that the CIA has strong ties with this school as well."

He also declared, as we have reported earlier, that some IPA students had written theses "on the use of torture as one technique of interrogation of prisoners."

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IN THE BOOK, "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," ex-CIA man Victor Marchetti and his coauthor, John Marks, describe the link between the CIA and IPA. "The academy," they write, "is operated by AID's Public Safety Division, which regularly supplies cover to CIA operators all over the world. And the CIA takes advantage of exchange programs to recruit agents."

The CIA attempted to censor this passage from the book, but it was reinstated after negotiations with the authors.

Footnote: The CIA has told us that all agency support for the IPA has been terminated. An IPA spokesman insists, nevertheless, that "the CIA has never controlled the International Police Academy."

Today's column is by Jack Anderson and Les Whitten.