

A Prober Doubts Spying by CIA

Washington

The vice chairman of the Rockefeller Commission said yesterday it is his opinion that with "one or two major exceptions," the Central Intelligence Agency never engaged in massive domestic spying.

C. Douglas Dillon, talking with reporters as the commission completed its 18-week investigation of the CIA, said the inquiry had uncovered "no major surprises" beyond original published reports last December that the agency was involved in wiretapping and opening of mail from private citizens.

Dillon said the commission thoroughly investigated allegations the CIA was involved in plots to assassinate foreign leaders, and centered on such reports involving Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. He did not divulge the commission's findings.

The former treasury secretary, second-ranking member of the special presidential commission headed by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, said the commission probably would not shed any new light on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

"Was there any indication of massive lawbreaking — domestic spying by the CIA?" Dillon was asked.

"Not in my opinion," he replied. "My own personal opinion, which is not necessarily that of the commission, is that with one or two rather major exceptions, everything that was done was rather peripheral and connected in one way or another with the legitimate work of the agency."

"The allegation is that the agency was devoting a major part of its time on domestic areas when it was supposed to be operating abroad. I don't think this was the case."

The commission held the last of 18 weekly meetings to hear testimony from CIA and other intelligence area officials yesterday.

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