

Clergy Wary of CIA Approaches

by Marjorie Hyer

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The CIA's relations with church groups is one of the areas that Sen. Frank Church's (D-Idaho) committee on intelligence expects to look into "in due course," committee spokesman Spencer Davis said last week.

The churches' problems with the CIA fall into several categories: use of ~~missionaries~~ ~~with~~ mission programs as a conduit for CIA funds; use of missionaries, with or without their knowledge, as intelligence sources, and what Father [Charles] Curry calls "harassment" of missionaries in the field.

The last category usually involves social reform projects undertaken by progressive missionaries in countries controlled by political regimes that church leaders view as repressive but which are friendly to the United States.

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