

I have just staggered away from my television set after watching on Channel 26 the Senate Committee Hearings on the CIA.

I am still trying to believe that all those men in their gray flannel suits in their high level positions really did sit there and discuss, apparently in full conformity with "Robert's Rules of Order," a situation that even George Orwell would find horrifying.

William Colby is a wind-up doll—is he really the top of the CIA bureaucracy. And Senator Goldwater's fascination with that dart gun was positively terrifying.

Would somebody tell me—are they all crazy . . . or am I?

Paula S. Felder.

Arlington.

Enough is enough! The Senate investigation of the CIA and other U.S. intelligence operations is, I am sure, great fun. It's much like being in a James Bond movie rather than watching it on the screen. However, the kind of playacting that exposes our secret intelligence gathering methods and capabilities to all the world is very destructive and dangerous—and very useful to potential enemies.

Certainly, the Congress should be kept informed and place necessary controls on such agencies of the government, but they should not go around exposing state secrets for the sheer fun of it.

I suspect that most Americans believed all along that the CIA and other such agencies had developed "James Bond technologies" and furthermore, would probably be severely disappointed if they had not done so. We,

the public have no special need to know the specific techniques and devices and the Congress has no business putting them on the front page of the world's newspapers.

Stephen Mollet.

Washington.

Senator Frank Church of Iowa, chairman of the Senate's panel investigating the CIA, apparently has a fondness for animals not native to American soil. Some weeks ago he referred to the CIA as a "rogue elephant" that has got out of control.

But just a few days ago, at the end of three days of public hearings, which produced little of substance on CIA misdeeds. Senator Church acknowledged that his committee's performance may have resembled "a hippopotamus rolling a pea."

In a fair contest, I don't know whether a hippopotamus can better a rogue elephant, but evidence suggests that it is quite capable of rolling peas.

Ernest W. Lefever.

Chevy Chase.

I suggest that the Congress and the media ask some of the Soviet and Eastern European defectors who sought and received asylum in this country what they think of the CIA. Of course a good many of these defectors cannot be contacted since they still go in fear of their lives and, thanks to the CIA, have established new identities. I have no doubt, however, that interviews with those defectors who can be reached would, shall we say, "considerably broaden the perspective" of the Agency's critics.

J. L. Donegan

Chevy Chase.