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# Levi: No special CIA prosecutor

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON — Atty. Gen. Edward Levi today rejected "as an attack on the integrity" of the Justice Department a proposal to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate any wrongdoing by the CIA, FBI and other intelligence agencies.

Levi told the Senate Government Operations Committee the proposal assumes that the "ordinary law-enforcement mechanism cannot be trusted" to investigate any suspicious activities by government employees.

"It's a most debilitating and destructive view of the Department of Justice and of the government," Levi said. "If I believed that, I would ask myself what I am doing here."

The proposal to appoint a special prosecutor was made yesterday by the chairman of the Senate intelligence committee.

Sweeping recommendations approved by the House intelligence committee would create a permanent House panel to keep an eye on U.S. spy activities and would outlaw such covert military aid operations as the CIA project in Angola.

Levi told the committee "not all secrets are intended merely to save an administration embarrassment."

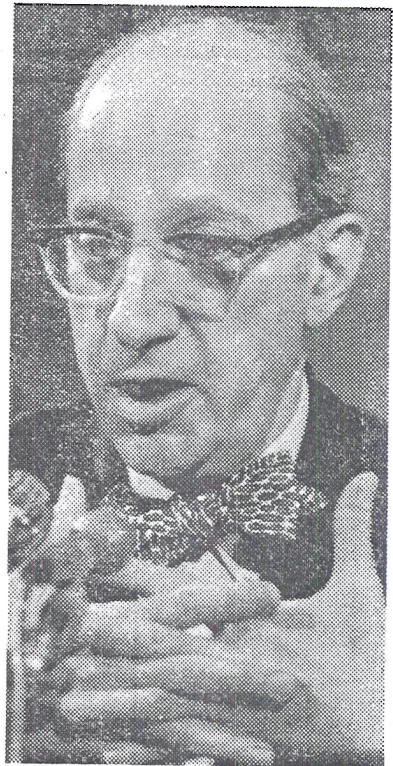
"There is a question of how far a committee can go in monitoring intelligence operations for legitimate legislative purposes before the tendency develops to attempt to manage them," Levi warned.

Levi said in a 27-page prepared statement that any such committee would have to watch closely for "leaks" of information.

"Errors in such decisions carry the potential for immediate and severe consequences both for ourselves and for our friends abroad . . . How our intelligence apparatus is constructed, then, is literally a vital question."

Levi said the doctrine of executive privilege "has come through a stormy season, yet in the eye of that storm, the Supreme Court affirmed the constitutional basis of the privilege and, when properly utilized, its essential public purposes."

He criticized as "destructive and debilitating" a recommendation made yesterday by Sen. Frank



**EDWARD LEVI**  
Opposes special prosecutor

Church, D-Idaho, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, that the special Watergate prosecutor's office be modified to investigate and prosecute crimes committed by intelligence agencies.

"I don't think this is the way for an orderly administration of justice," Levi said. There's no reason to believe that the Department of Justice in the normal course cannot effectively handle violations of the law."