

CIA (D)

Times FEB 24 1976
The Periled American

To the Editor:

The C.I.A. endangers the lives of almost every American abroad. By operating and recruiting secretly, everyone is suspect and some are killed. As long as C.I.A. agents are involved in assassination, provision of military weapons and training in torture techniques, some liberation groups will try to get rid of the C.I.A. agents through assassination. And there is no way to tell who the agents are.

As director of International Voluntary Services in Vietnam during the 1960's, I tried to get assurances from the different U.S. Ambassadors that I.V.S. members would not be recruited by the C.I.A. One of our members was killed and one wounded because, I believe, the Vietnamese could not tell who was who. The C.I.A. refused to give any assurances, privately or publicly, that volunteer workers would not be used. So the danger continued for all.

I am pleased that the C.I.A. has agreed not to recruit journalists and missionaries for its clandestine operations anymore. But this still leaves thousands of other Americans abroad whose lives and reputations remain endangered.

DON LUCE
Director, Clergy and Laity Concerned
New York, Feb. 17, 1976