

Latin Expert Hits C.I.A. Disclosures

By JUAN de ONIS

American scholarly research in Latin America has been made "miserably difficult" by disclosures that United States security agencies used academic "covers" for their work, a Dartmouth College sociologist said yesterday.

Prof. Kalman H. Silvert of Dartmouth, president of the Latin-American Studies Association, said an "atmosphere of suspicion" had developed in Latin-American academic circles after disclosure of a Pentagon-sponsored study of political attitudes in Chile in 1965 known as "Operation Camelot."

"Now, the disclosure of Central Intelligence Agency financing of the National Student Association, which was active in Latin America, is going to make people more suspicious and research more difficult," Dr. Silvert said.

He emphasized that he was speaking as a social science researcher in Latin America, not as president of the recently formed Latin-American Studies Association, which is supported by more than 40 American universities with study programs in the region.

Concern on Research

But Dr. Silvert said he had found "great concern" among colleagues in his field over the possible effects on research programs under way.

"They are going on, but more cautiously," he said.

Prof. Albert Hirschman of Harvard University, a specialist in Latin-American development economics, said the disclosure of C.I.A. activities was "not going to help" the increasing number of American university scholars getting into the Latin-American studies field.

"There is likely to be an in-

itial barrier of distrust toward newcomers," Dr. Hirschman said. He doubted that established figures in the field would be affected.

A survey by correspondents of The New York Times in Latin America indicated that initial reaction to the revelations of C.I.A. involvement in overseas student organization had been subdued—in part because many Latin-Americans in academic life assumed already that such "covert" ties were a fact of life.

A student leader at the University of Guanabara's law school in Rio de Janeiro, who asked to be unidentified, said the disclosures came as no surprise to Brazilian students, adding:

A Critical View

"You people in the United States are much more unsophisticated about your Government than we are. People in my circle, and I think most activists students in Latin America, know that your aid programs and your education programs are not done out of humanitarian reasons, but because they serve your foreign policy.

"We might not have known that the Central Intelligence Agency specifically was behind your student programs, but we always knew there was a hook in the fish. So what is there to comment, if we already knew it?"

A university professor in Mexico City took a more critical view of the situation.

"From now on, we'll see a James Bond 007 agent in just about every American professor and student who visits Mexico," he said.

Personnel engaged in promoting American cultural activities in Mexico are reportedly dismayed at the disclosures of C.I.A. activities. Particular con-

cern exists that the reports "may poison the atmosphere of mutual trust between the United States and Mexico which has been built up in the academic field," one correspondent said.

The Communist caricature of United States cultural and technical aid programs as Trojan horses for American military agents to penetrate and subvert Mexico may now have found a new element of credibility, a Mexican professor said.

Press Restrained

In Columbia, as in most Latin-American countries, the press did not give the C.I.A. story unusual prominence. Reaction was also casual at the once turbulent National University in Bogotá, which has been patrolled by the police since President Carlos Lleras Restrepo and John D. Rockefeller were stoned there during a visit last year.

Colombian students reportedly assume the United States students at the National University are in the same status as a Russian exchange student at Harvard in terms of providing his Government with information. This does not produce any hostility toward Fulbright scholars or visiting United States professors in Colombia.

A fourth-year law student said he assumed that the university was infiltrated by the United States in some form. "They know more about us than we know ourselves," he said. The Inter-American Development Bank has approved a \$7-million loan to Colombia's universities for buildings, student scholarships and salaries for full-time professors.

A report from Guatemala said the C.I.A. disclosures had "hardened" the anti-American attitudes of nationalistic students and teachers.