

CIA Chief's View On Manuscript

Washington

William Colby, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, made a rare public appearance yesterday to testify that a book manuscript about the CIA contains security breaches "which are very serious indeed."

Colby was the final witness at a trial in U.S. district court in nearby Alexandria, Va., to determine whether 162 passages in the book by Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks must be deleted as the CIA has ordered.

U.S. District Judge Albert V. Bryan Jr., presiding without a jury, set March 18 for final arguments.

Colby testified that when the manuscript was submitted to his agency last August, the staff found 339 passages that were technically classified secret, but later agreed that more than half of these could be published.

"I did not think them of sufficient seriousness" to insist on their deletion from

the book titled "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," Colby said.

Colby, who did not discuss specific deletions, was not cross-examined. His testimony was given in open court. Much of the 2½-day trial was conducted in secret, with the public and newsmen excluded, because it involved matters classified secret.

Co-author Marks was formerly employed by the State Department. He was assistant to the director of intelligence when he resigned in September, 1970.

Marchetti left the CIA in September, 1969, after working there for 14 years. Both men now describe themselves as free-lance writers.

They are bound by the terms of an injunction forbidding them from publishing any secret information they learned while working for the government without submitting it for approval.

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