

Ex-C.I.A. Agent Denies He Gave Information to the Russians

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, July 10—Philip B. F. Agee, a former employe of the Central Intelligence Agency who has written a book about the agency's operation in Latin America, denied today that he had ever disclosed information about the agency to the K.G.B., the Soviet intelligence agency.

Last week, reliable sources in Washington were reported in an article in The New York Times as having said that the C.I.A. had been obliged to reorganize its Western Hemisphere operations because one of its agents, when drunk, had revealed aspects of the organization to a K.G.B. agent.

These sources did not name Mr. Agee, who resigned from the agency in 1969, subsequently spent time in Mexico, France and Cuba, and now is living in Britain. It was later reported, however, that the intelligence agency's reorganization was a result of its concern that Mr. Agee would reveal information about the agency's work in Latin America.

Mr. Agee said today that his book, which is to be published next year by Penguin Book Publishers of London, would give a detailed picture of the C.I.A.'s work in Ecuador, Uruguay and Mexico during the years he was stationed in those countries.

"It is only a small window on the C.I.A. as a whole," he said. "But I think that it can be taken as giving a clear idea of how the agency operates."

"I did not at any time give information about the C.I.A. to members of the K.B.G.," he said. "That is a complete fabrication and I can only think it is part of an effort to discredit the book in advance. What I have to say about the C.I.A., I am saying in my book."

Mr. Agee also denied a report in a New York Times dispatch that the book contained allegations that C.I.A. agents had upon occasion assassinated temporary employes of the agency in Latin America. He said that although in training courses he had taken after joining the agency such action was not excluded, he knew of no instances in which assassination had been resorted to.

No Comment by C.I.A.

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WASHINGTON, July 10—The Central Intelligence Agency had no comment today on the denial by Mr. Agee that he had compromised the agency's Latin-American operations.

Official sources had said earlier that they could not deny that the former agent had met with the Soviet intelligence service.

Subsequently, official sources said that although Mr. Agee had traveled to Cuba on three occasions after resigning from the C.I.A., there was no indication that he had spoken with Soviet agents there or anywhere else.

The New York Times dispatch last week said that a tale of a "drunken and despondent" C.I.A. agent who had sat down with a Soviet intelligence operative "somewhere in Latin America" had emerged as a result of a Senate Watergate Committee inquiry into the activities of the intelligence agency.

"Information of value to the Russians" clearly was provided, the dispatch said, because the Watergate Committee's report quoted a high C.I.A. official as having said that the affair "threatened to compromise Western Hemisphere operations."

An informed source, speaking of Mr. Agee today, said that the matter of "what contacts he had, with whom he had them, what he may have passed and what damage has been done is still a very serious counterintelligence problem."