# ACTIVITIES ABROAD

Sparkman Cites a New Law Restricting Operations Solely to Intelligence

By SEYMOUR M. HERSH

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6-The Central Intelligence Agency was told by a Senate committee today that it must heed new legislation calling for an immediate stop to most foreign C.I.A. operations not solely aimed at the gathering of intel-

ligence.

The new restrictions, cited in letter released by Senator John J. Sparkman, Democrat of Alabama, acting chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, came amid growing controversy over the make-up of a Presidential panel named yesterday to investigate charges t of domestic C.I.A. spying.

## Criticism by Liberals

Some liberal members of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ t \end{bmatrix}$ Congress, joined by such groups as the American Civil Liberties Union, expressed doubt over the objectivity and independence of the eight-member commission f and challenged President Ford's naming of Vice President Rockefeller as its chairman.

Among those questioning the make-up of the panel were Sen-ators William Proxmire, Democrat of Wisconsin; Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, and Representative Bella S. Abzug, Democrat of Manhattan.

The Foreign Relations Committee's apparent determination to take an active role in monitoring covert C.I.A. operations indicates that Congress will be heavily involved this year in investigating both the foreign and domestic activities of the agency. Three other committees have already announced plans to investigate the alleged domestic spying.

Meantime, high officials of the Justice Department met late today to plan their inves-

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tigation into possible illegali-ties from the C.I.A.'s alleged domestic activities. Justice officials said that the

Justice officials said that the investigation would be conducted jointly by lawyers in the Criminal and Civil Rights Divisions, under the direction of Laurence H. Silberman, Deports. Attorney General uty Attorney General.
One official source said that

the department's investigation would be governed by Federal statutes prohibiting those acting under the color of law, which includes agents of the C.I.A., from conspiring to de-prive citizens of their civil rights.

The new limitations on the

The new limitations on the C.I.A.'s foreign activities were approved late last year by the House and Senate as an amendment to the 1974 Foreign Assistance Act, which was signed into law by the President on Dec. 30.

The amendment provides that no appropriated funds "may be expended by or on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency for operations in foreign counties, other than activities intended solely for obtaining nec-

pending specific Presidential approval, the C.I.A. would be unable to mount clandestine political operations against foreign governments or in other ways manipulate other county. publicized "destabilization" program between 1970 and 1973, whose target was the elected Government of the Marxist President of Chile, Salvador Allende Gossens.

In his letter, sent to William E. Colby, the Director of Central Intelligence, Senator Sparkman said that the "proper first step" for compliance would be to insure that the intelligence agency had obeyed the law and ceased all foreign operation. ways manipulate other countries. The amendment thus would have barred the widely publicized "destabilization"

agency had obeyed the law and ceased all foreign operations other than intelligence gathering that had not specifically been approved by the President. "We assume that if this is no the case," the Sparkman



The New York Times Senator John J. Sparkman

letter said, "the committee will be notified forthwith and the requisite report submitted."

# Review by Colby Asked

for operations in foreign countifies, other than activities intended solely for obtaining necessary intelligence, unless and until the President finds that each such operation is important to the national security of the United States."

Upon making that determination, the bill says, the President must report as much in a written statement to the appropriate committees.

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Mr. Sparkman further told Mr. Colby that he should review the agency's current foreign intelligence activities to determine which "may conceivable be viewed as within the scope of the law." Any activities believed by the agency to fall within a "gray area," the Senator said, should be immediately brought to his attenion. In closing, the Senator endorsed the intelligence collection and anaysis capability of the C.I.A. but added that it was "essential that public and Congressional confidence in the agency, now shaken by recent disclosures, be restored as promptly as possible."

was "solely."
One Senate official suggested that the Foreign Relations Committee under Mr. Sparkman might effectively monitor the C.I.A. Because "he'll have more support from other members" than did former Senator J.W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, the former chair of avoid afullpublicreview than man.

"This amendment is important," the official said, "because it gives the committee the kind of charter it hasn't had before."

to facilitate one."

"No one on the President's commission has heretofore been known as an independent critic of any C.I.A. activities," he said.

The next step, he added, "is up to Colby."

tion over the agency's affairs. Sources close to the Foreign-Relations Committee said that Mr. Colby had not yet responded to the Sparkman letter.

One Senate aide said that the amendment had "sort of slipped by everybody" at the close of the last session. As written, it would stop a C.I.A. operation that has a political goal and also accumulates intelligence.

A Key Restruction

"No funds may be expended other than for agency operations intended solely for obtaining intelligence," one aide said, noting that the key word was "solely."

One Senate official suggested of the Foreign-But a whitewash fro this panel."

In New York, Representative President Ford Continuing "the cover-up tradition" of his predecessor, Richard M. Nixon, by naming, "with few exceptions, this conservative collection of bankers, corporate officials and a former chief of staff [who] have never shown any concern for civil liberties."

Senator Schweiker, a liberal Republican, questioned "whether a panel so dominated by those oriented to government and the military intelligence establishment can render an independent judgment".

to facilitate one."
"No one on the President's

### Protest Rockefeller Role

The three civil liberties groups Congressional debate over also protested the choice of President Ford5s eight-member commission to investigate alleged domestic spying, named yesterday, focused on person. Advisory Board The beard and the civil interties groups also protested the choice of Mr. Rockefeller as commission chairman because of his role as a member since 1969 of the President's Foreign Intelligence.

yesterday, focused on personalities.

Senator Proxmire, who criticized yesterday the naming of Mr. Rockefeller as chairman, broadened his criticism today. "The panel is one-sided in that it contains no champion of civil liberties," he said. "And what is at issue here is the C.I.A. tampering with the civil liberties of American citizens."

Critical Analysis' Doubted "I think that panel is unclined forcing in the ligence operations and sets some requirements for the intelligence operations and sets some requirements for the intelligence operations, and sets some requirements for the intelligence operations and sets some requirements for the intelligence operations, and sets some requirements for the intelligence operations and sets so

The Vice President also de- Industrial Organizations. fended the make-up of the commission, describing it as "outstanding." He said that its work would have three main goals:

To restore confidence in the C.I.A. to protect national se-

An official close to Mr. Talk," produced by the Public ockefeller said that there Broadcasting Service. An official close to Mr. Talk," produced by the Public Rockefeller said that there were "two or three" candidates for the important job of staff director for the group, officially known as the Commission on C.I.A. Activities Within the "clearly indicates interest" by United States The official said United States. The official said that the post would "almost certainly" be filled before the end of the week.

#### Other Members

The other commission members are Ronald Reagan, former Governor of California; Erwin N. Griswold, former Solicitor General; C. Douglas Dillon, former Secretary of the Treasury; John T. Connor, former REMEMBER THE NEEDIEST!

the Committee on Foreign Af-C.I.A. activities that we are fairs of the United States supposed to get," he said.

House of Representatives." The amendment thus gives the two committees their first jurisdiction over the agency's affairs. Sources close to the Foreign- Representative and that "we can expect nothing Relations Committee said that "we can expect nothing Relations Committee said that "we can expect nothing Relations Committee said that "panel" a whitewash fro this relations Committee said that panel "supposed to get," he said.

House of Representatives." The Another Liberal Democrat, Representative Robert L. Legion Mr. Rockefeller noted that he had not volunteered for the job and said he was planning former president of the University of Virginia, and Joseph Relations Committee said that panel "supposed to get," he said.

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The Vice President also de-Industrial Organizations.

America and elsewhere.

He was interviewed by Paul Duke on "Washington Straight Talk," produced by the Public

The Ford Administration, despite authorizing the commission, has yet to deny or confirm officially the allega-