

'Confirmation' of CIA List Story

Washington

A Justice Department domestic intelligence unit provided the Central Intelligence Agency with names of 9,000 to 10,000 U.S. radicals in 1970, a Justice Department official confirmed last night.

James T. Devine, now with Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, said the names of domestic radicals were provided to the CIA with a request that the spy agency increase its surveillance of these people while they were on trips abroad.

It could not be learned whether the names supplied by the Justice Department were the same ones mentioned in a recent New York Times story alleging that the CIA conducted illegal domestic surveillance on anti-war activists and had the names of 10,000 Americans in its files.

Devine said he supplied the names while he was head of the Interagency Domestic Intelligence Unit in the Justice Department. He said he gave them to Richard Ober, a senior officer in the CIA's counterintelligence division. The Times named Ober and his supervisor, James J. Angleton, as managers of the CIA's alleged domestic surveillance program.

Devine said the names included members of the Black Panthers, the Weathermen, the Students for a Democratic Society, some Arab organizations and other New Left groups.

The names had been compiled by the FBI as part of

its monitoring of domestic demonstrators and violence-prone radicals, as well as in investigations of anti-riot violations and threats against government personnel and property, Devine said.

"Quite a few of them were going overseas, particularly to meetings in Europe," Devine said. "We wanted CIA to increase their coverage of them there to see who they were meeting, what they were planning, whether they were getting foreign training in sabotage and other foreign support."

The CIA reports on foreign activity were channeled back to the FBI, Devine said.

Two sources said Ober had been given the assignment of tracking foreign radicals abroad late in the Johnson administration. CIA intelligence analysts had been asked to determine whether domestic radicals were being supported or influenced by foreign powers, they said.

This report concluded that there was no evidence to support that belief, but Johnson administration officials were reluctant to accept it, these sources said.

The analysis job was then given to Ober in counterintelligence and additional manpower was shifted into his office, they said. One source said he may have had as many as 50 people working for him.

"But we never did find any hard evidence of foreign support or financing for these domestic radicals," one source said.

Associated Press