

## Helms Terms Newsmen 'Killer' For Hint of Murders by C.I.A.

WASHINGTON, April 28 (UPI)—Richard M. Helms, former Director of Central Intelligence, denounced a newsman today for reporting charges that the Central Intelligence Agency carried out the assassination of foreign leaders.

Mr. Helms made the comments to reporters after an appearance of nearly three hours before the Rockefeller commission—the longest appearance by any of the 44 witnesses who have testified during its 16-week investigation of the C.I.A.

The target of Mr. Helms's attack was Daniel Schorr, the CBS newsman, who first reported that President Ford was concerned that the C.I.A., investigation would reveal that the agency had a role in the assassination of at least three foreign leaders.

"Killer Schorr! Killer Schorr!" Mr. Helms said loudly as he walked down the hallway with reporters after his appearance before the Presidential commission that is headed by Vice President Rockefeller.

### Objects To 'Lies'

In a news conference later, when Mr. Schorr asked a question on a subject unrelated to the alleged assassinations, Mr. Helms would only answer:

"I like some of the lies you've been putting on the air. I just want to say one thing—I don't know of any foreign leader that was ever assassinated by the C.I.A. That's my honest belief."

Mr. Helms bristled when newsmen asked him if there had ever been discussions in the C.I.A. plotting the assassinations of foreign leaders.

"That's like asking me if I've stopped beating my wife," Mr. Helms said. "There were

always discussions of everything. Two men may have sat in the State Department or the Defense Department and discussed things that may not be acceptable to the American people. That happens all the time."

Mr. Helms refused to comment on reports that the late President Johnson told several colleagues that he believed the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963 was in retaliation for a C.I.A. plot aimed at Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba.

"I don't know why President Johnson said these things," Mr. Helms said.

Besides being accused of plotting to kill the Cuban Premier, the C.I.A. has allegedly been involved in a plot to assassinate President Francois Duvalier of Haiti and in the assassinations of Rafael L. Trujillo, head of the Dominican Republic, and of Premier Patrice Lumumba of the Congo.

Mr. Helms, now the United States Ambassador to Iran, was Director of Central Intelligence from 1966 to 1973.

In addition to the alleged assassinations, the Rockefeller commission is investigating reports that, during the antiwar protests in the late nineteen-sixties, the C.I.A. was engaged in a massive domestic spying program that is illegal under the agency's charter.

Mr. Helms said his testimony "covered all kinds of subjects—Cuba, Vietnam—anything you can imagine."

He said he had spent two days preparing with the staff of the Rockefeller commission and then appeared before the full panel "for a reaffirmation of what I covered with the staff."