

WIDE C.I.A. SPYING AT HOME IS DENIED

MAY 13 1975

But Dillon, on Rockefeller's
Panel, Says There Were
One or Two Exceptions
NYTimes

By NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 12—The vice chairman of the Rockefeller Commission said today that after 18 weeks of investigation it was his opinion that the Central Intelligence Agency had never engaged in massive domestic spying.

In a briefing for reporters, the vice chairman, C. Douglas Dillon, indicated, however, that there had been "one or two rather major exceptions" regarding illegal activity. He declined to elaborate.

The New York Times last December quoted sources as saying that the C.I.A. had engaged in a "massive" domestic spying operation that included wiretapping, opening the mail of private citizens and the maintenance of dossiers on Americans.

William E. Colby, the Director of Central Intelligence, later submitted a report to President

Continued on Page 13, Column 1

Continued From Page 1, Col. 7

Ford acknowledging some domestic activities.

At one point, Mr. Dillon was asked whether the commission's investigation had found "any indication of massive lawbreaking—domestic spying by the C.I.A.?"

"Not in my opinion," he replied. "My own personal opinion, which is not necessarily that of the commission, is that with one or two rather major exceptions, everything that was done was rather peripheral and connected in one way or an-

CIA (D)

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1975

other with the legitimate work of the agency."

He later said that the "allegation is that the agency was devoting a major part of its time on domestic areas when it was supposed to be operating abroad."

"I don't think this was the case," he said.

Mr. Dillon said that he had been surprised to learn that as open mail, which he had not known before he went on the commission.

Mr. Dillon appeared to have been brought in to brief reporters quite by chance. The normal procedure has been for Vice President Rockefeller, the chairman, to talk with reporters after each closed session. Mr. Dillon seemed far more willing to impart his impressions than the Vice President has been.

At one point, a commission press aide quietly suggested to Mr. Dillon that he might not want to predict what would be in the commission's final report.

Today's was the last session at which the commission will hear witnesses, Mr. Dillon said, unless something unexpected comes up. He said that it expected to continue writing its report on a stepped-up schedule during the rest of the month. The report will be turned over to President Ford on June 6. Mr. Rockefeller has said that he would like to see the report.

Mr. Dillon, a former Secretary of the Treasury, publicly confirmed for the first time that the commission had been investigating allegations of plots to assassinate foreign leaders, and that these investi-

gations centered on reports involving the Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, and Rafael Trujillo, President of the Dominican Republic.

Mr. Dillon declined to discuss the commission's conclusions on the matter of assassination plots, but he did confirm that the commission had entered this realm of inquiry at the request of President Ford.

Mr. Dillon said that the commission's involvement in the question of political assassinations came when it was approached by several persons who doubted the outcome of the Warren Commission's investigation.

After that, Mr. Dillon said, and under Presidential orders the commission thoroughly investigated charges of plots to

assassinate foreign leaders. He mentioned both Premier Castro and Mr. Trujillo by name.

He said that he did not believe that the Rockefeller Commission would expand on the findings of the Warren Commission. He declined to comment on the commission's other findings.

The last two witnesses to appear before the commission were Adm. George Anderson, chairman of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, and William Cotter, chief postal inspector. Admiral Anderson declined to talk to reporters. The board is a group of consultants who advise the President on intelligence matters.