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# Truth About the CIA



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**C**IA CHIEF William Colby has complained that the investigations into CIA activities are impairing U.S. intelligence efforts.

This is disputed by our sources on the inside, who insist that the CIA hasn't been seriously hampered in gathering the intelligence that really counts.

Most vital information needed to safeguard the nation is provided by planes, satellites, ships and stations loaded with technological wonders.

Through these magic eyes and ears, the CIA has been able to eavesdrop on conversations inside the Kremlin, photograph Soviet naval movements clearly enough to identify individual sailors and calculate where every factory in Russia is located, what it produces and how much it produces.

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**T**HE HULLABALOO OVER over CIA abuses hasn't stopped the spy satellites from spinning around the earth several times a day and photographing the sights below. Nor has it kept the spy planes from completing their usual missions.

In aerial photographs of Somalia, Africa, for example, analysts first spotted a huge hole on the side of a hill. The aerial shots of Soviet ships in the area also disclosed some peculiar packing crates that the CIA had seen before.

Nations, like individuals, have

certain habits, and the Soviet Union had a habit of crating technological gear in special crates. A whole section of the CIA is devoted to what insiders call "crateology."

By examining the photographs of the crates and noting a new excavation site, the CIA concluded that the Russians were establishing a missile storage base in Somalia.

The Soviets are now fully aware of the techniques that the CIA used to spot their missile storage site. For that matter, the Russians know far more about CIA operations than do the American people.

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**T**HE INVESTIGATIONS on Capitol Hill may hamper the CIA from abusing its powers but not from collecting intelligence. The CIA never had a license to violate the law. By overstepping its legal and proper bounds, the CIA brought the spotlight upon itself.

It is more important to stop CIA abuses and to restore some decency to U.S. operations than it is to collect every last tidbit of gossip from world capitals.

The United States should never have permitted the CIA to get down on the Communist level and operate the way the KGB does. Ours should be a moral government, with high standards. There should be no need for the CIA to resort to the ugly business of assassinations, blackmail and drug dealing.