

Overhaul of CIA Urged

Washington

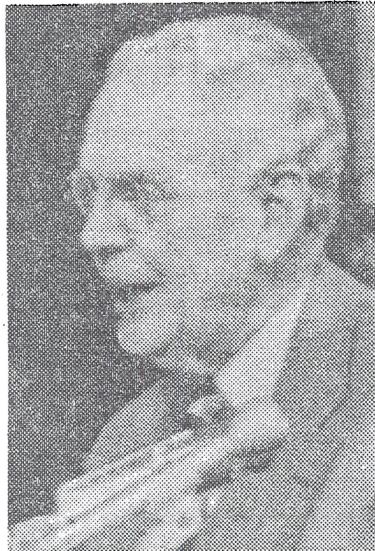
One of the senior members of the American intelligence establishment appeared before a Senate investigating panel yesterday and said the U.S. intelligence apparatus is badly in need of overhaul.

Clark M. Clifford, former secretary of defense and chairman of the presidential Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, counseled lawmakers, nonetheless, against abolishing covert action operations of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Clifford, who helped President Truman draw up the 1947 National Security Act establishing the CIA, acknowledged that its covert operations around the world "have gotten out of hand."

Clifford was one of four experts to testify as the Senate intelligence committee turned from the dramatic disclosures of the earlier phases of its inquiry to the business of drafting reform legislation.

He was supported in his



AP Wirephoto

CLARK CLIFFORD
Former defense secretary

position on covert action by two other members of the panel, former Undersecretary of Defense Cyrus Vance and retired clandestine operations officer David G. Phillips.

The lone dissenter to any form of covert action was Morton H. Halperin, former deputy assist-

ant secretary of defense for international security affairs and a critic of CIA clandestine operations.

Halperin called for the outlawing of covert programs of the CIA with the observation, "the possible benefits ... are far outweighed by the costs to our society of maintaining a capability for covert operations." Such activities, he said, are "incompatible with our democratic institutions, with congressional and public control over foreign policy decisions."

The other members of the panel of experts agreed that the agency's excursions into clandestine assassination and political espionage, as detailed in reports of the intelligence committee, had gone beyond the bounds of the CIA charter.

But they maintained that Presidents should not be precluded by legislation from resorting to traditional cloak-and-dagger operations.

Clifford proposed to the committee that a House-Senate committee be established to oversee CIA operations, a group the executive department would consult before covert projects were launched.

He also recommended the establishment of a position of director-general of intelligence who would preside over the entire intelligence community and report to the President. An additional proposal was that all decisions on covert action be made by the director-general and full National Security Council.

Clifford, testifying with his customarily grave and authoritative manner, acknowledged to Senator Gary Hart (Dem-Colo.) that he advised President Kennedy in 1961 to strongly resist congressional efforts to investigate the CIA.

The veteran presidential adviser said he was trying at the time to prevent members of Congress from moving the CIA's Bay of Pigs fiasco into the "political arena."

Committee Chairman Frank Church (Dem-Ida.), who is soon expected to announce his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination, strongly indicated that he would favor preserving some covert action capability to deal with cases such as Portugal.

In Portugal, he said, the

United States should maintain leeway to help insure that the mandate of "85 per cent of the people" is secure from the machinations of a "small and militant Communist minority."

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