

NHT
2-16-67

Ramparts Says C.I.A. Received Student Report

By JUAN de ONIS

The Central Intelligence Agency used undercover financing and secret collaborators to turn the National Student Association's international activities into "an arm of United States foreign policy," Ramparts magazine said yesterday.

The magazine said in an article that international staff members of the association had passed along, often unwittingly, "reports on foreign student leaders" to the C.I.A.

"This information help the C.I.A. in evaluating the political tendencies of prospective political leaders in critical areas of the world," Ramparts said.

The article alleged that the C.I.A. had funded most of association's international activities since 1950 with millions of dollars channeled to the organization, and affiliated bodies, through tax-exempt "C.I.A.-front foundations."

The imminent appearance of the article, which will be on sale about Feb. 23, has caused present and past leaders of the association to acknowledge that C.I.A. funds had been used in the organization's international programs.

Funds Taper Off

The article said, however, that the C.I.A.'s funding had begun tapering off last year when policy disagreements arose between the association's then president, Philip Sherburne, and the agency's Covert Action Division No. 5, which is alleged to have been in charge of the student program abroad.

By last September, the article said, "Sherburne was faced with approximately a \$35,000 deficit that no one picked up. The deficit has remained, despite staff outbacks. The 'firm' [an allusive term for the C.I.A.] doesn't like rebellious children."

Sense of Importance Cited

The relationship between student association and the C.I.A., unknown to all but a few of the organization's leaders, "meant lots of money, a sense of doing important work, overseas travel, and, perhaps most important of all, very little feeling of having sold out one's political convictions," Ramparts said.

"The C.I.A. relationship meant something more personal, too," the article went on. "For years selected (and appointed) officials and staffers of N.S.A. have been getting draft deferments."

A spokesman for the student group told The Associated Press yesterday it was "absolutely untrue" that the officers got "automatic deferments." He pointed out that Eugene Groves, the association's president, and Richard Stearus, its vice president, were currently classified I-A.

The article said deferments were given for having an "occupation vital to the national interest." They would last as long as the officers worked for the association, it said.

"The standard practice was for the president of N.S.A. to send a letter to the local draft board, stating that the staff members services were required in an area that affected the

Magazine Declares Agency Turned Group It Financed Into an 'Arm of Policy'

national interest," Ramparts said. "Always included was a Cold War paragraph about how N.S.A. was combating Communism."

Circulation of 200,000

Ramparts is a four-year-old monthly magazine that claims a circulation of 200,000. It was founded as a Roman Catholic layman's publication by Edward M. Keating, a California real estate investor.

It was described yesterday by Marc Stone, a New York public relations representative of the magazine, as "an iconoclastic, independent magazine in the muck-raking tradition that frequently reflects 'new left' views."

The magazine advocates United States withdrawal from the Vietnam war and has called national to other C.I.A. undercover activities.

In its issue of April, 1966, Ramparts disclosed that the C.I.A. had used a technical assistance program on police administration arranged by Michigan State University with the Ngo Dinh Diem regime in Saigon for "counter-intelligence" activities.

The current article on the C.I.A.'s relationship with the student association said that the agency "treated N.S.A. as an arm of United States foreign policy."

Most Knew Nothing

According to Ramparts, the few student officials who were aware of the C.I.A. relationship and were in regular contact with agency officers were given a full national security check. If they passed, the article said, they were declared "witty."

But most of the association's leadership, elected to office from university campuses or hired to the organization's staff, knew nothing of the relationship.

Ramparts said one of those was an international staffer who visited student groups in Spain during protests against the Franco regime.

"The same staff member had previously gone to the Dominican Republic shortly after the American intervention there," the article said. "He brought back a report on his contacts with university students who had participated in the civil war on the side of the constitutionalists." The report was passed on to the C.I.A.

In the Dominican conflict, the "constitutionalists" opposed United States military intervention and fought for weeks against the Inter-American Peace Force sent to pacify the island.

Other Disclosures

In an analysis of complex financial transfers to the student association through "C.I.A.-linked" foundations, Ramparts said it had uncovered other areas of international activities in which purportedly independent and nonpolitical organizations were funded by the agency. Ramparts said the Sidney and

Esther Rabb Charitable Foundation of Boston, founded by Mr. Rabb, a businessman prominent in liberal Democratic circles, had received \$25,000 from an organization called the Tower Foundation, and turned over an equal sum to the International Development Foundation.

The International Development Foundation has been engaged in organizing anti-Communist peasants unions in Latin America, particularly in Chile, where it sponsors a confederation of rural worker unions against the Communist-led Peasant and Indian Federation.

Ramparts said the article was based on revelations attributed to Michael Wood, a former director of development in charge of fund raising for the association. Mr. Wood, according to the article, learned of the C.I.A. financing link from Philip Sherburne, president for 1965-66, now studying law at Harvard.

'Case Study in Corruption'

Mr. Wood, a former student at Pomona College and civil rights worker in the Watts section of Los Angeles, said in a statement accompanying the article that he had "betrayed the trust" of Mr. Sherburne in making his disclosures. He said he had acted to make public "a case study in C.I.A. corruption."

"The spectre of C.I.A. infiltration of domestic institutions—and the covert creation of coordinated leadership among them—must horrify those who regard unfettered debate as vital to representative democracy," Mr. Wood said.

The student association was founded in 1947. Three years later, it sponsored the formation of the International Student Conference, which appeared as a rival to the Communist-controlled International Union of Students. This began the association's active period of international activities.

"N.S.A., with C.I.A.'s aid, was able to play a major role in cooperating with favored national unions of students all over the world," said Ramparts.

\$1.8-Million in Grants

The article indicated that the scale of this operation could be measured by records of the International Student Conference showing that between 1962 and 1964 the organization received \$1,826,000 in grants from the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs in New York and the San Jacinto Foundation of Houston.

Between 1962 and 1965, Ramparts said, the student association received \$256,483.32 from the Independent Foundation of Boston, which also provided a 15-year, rent-free lease for the student group's headquarters. Independence also reportedly financed \$3,000-a-year scholarships for former student officers serving as overseas representatives with the international conference.

The article identified six foundations as "C.I.A.-suspect." It named the Price Fund of New York, the Borden Trust of Philadelphia, the Beacon Fund of Boston, the Kentfield Fund of Dallas, the Edsel Fund of San Francisco, and the Tower Foundation.