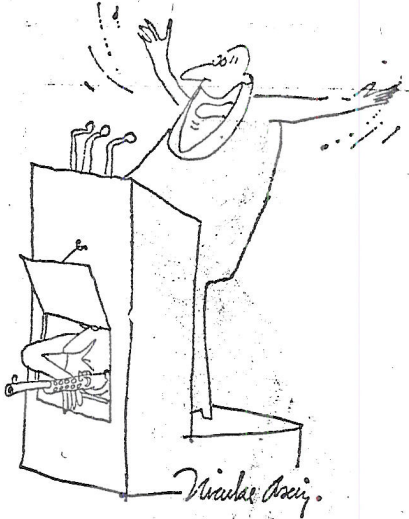


C.I.A. and Chile: 'This Story Does Not Wash'

To the Editor:

In his Sept. 18 letter, C.I.A. Director William Colby disclaimed his use of the word "destabilization" to describe the goals of the C.I.A. actions in Chile. I indeed attributed the quotation to Mr. Colby in my letters to Representative Morgan and Senator Fulbright and remain certain that the transcript I read of Mr. Colby's testimony to the House Armed Services Special Subcommittee on Intelligence contained that word.

I would suggest that rather than placing such emphasis on the exact wording used before the committee, and thus diverting the public debate over the desirability of C.I.A. activities in Chile, Mr. Colby should instead



make public his testimony in order to enable public debate to be based on the best possible available evidence.

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I also take issue with Mr. Colby's assertions that the word "destabilize" was not an accurate description of C.I.A. policy and that the C.I.A.'s covert operations in Chile represented a policy "from 1971 on of encouraging the continued existence of democratic forces looking toward free elections." That *ex post facto* rationale for clandestine intervention in internal Chilean affairs is at variance with Mr. Colby's own testimony on April 22, 1974, and represents a further attempt to mislead the American people about our Chilean misadventure.

As far as the over-all aims of our policy are concerned, I suggest that Mr. Colby once again review his own testimony, in which he describes our efforts in Chile as a laboratory experiment to test the techniques of heavy financial investment in discrediting and bringing down a government.

It is now becoming clear that Mr. Colby, along with President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger, is in the process of evolving what amounts to their own White Paper justifying after the fact United States intervention in Chile, similar to the White Paper issued by the Chilean junta last Oct. 26 justifying the need for its military coup. Rather than admitting that United States foreign policy was indeed aimed at "destabilizing" the Allende Government, the executive is unsuccessfully trying to sell the story that the United States acted only to save the principles of democracy being dismantled by Allende.

This story simply does not wash in light of the \$350,000 authorized to bribe the Chilean Congress before Allende took office and the \$500,000 authorized to aid Allende's opponents in both 1969 and 1970 before Allende ever had the chance to try to eliminate them.

MICHAEL J. HARRINGTON
U.S. Representative, 6th Dist., Mass.
Washington, Sept. 20, 1974

The writer is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.