

Misusing C.I.A. Money

Representative Wright Patman has disclosed that the Central Intelligence Agency is giving money to, and working through, at least one private foundation. And, if one, there must be others.

The practice ought to stop. Its continuation permits the Communists and the cynical everywhere to charge that American scholars, scientists and writers going abroad on grants from foundations are cover agents or spies for C.I.A. All scholars—especially those involved in East-West exchanges—will suffer if the integrity of their research is thus made suspect. What evidence can American professors or field workers present to prove they are not engaged in underground activities when it is known that the C.I.A. is using its money to subsidize existing foundations, or is creating fictitious ones?

The use of Government intelligence funds to get foundations to underwrite institutions, organizations, magazines and newspapers abroad is a distortion of C.I.A.'s mission on gathering and evaluating information. It means operating behind a mask to introduce governmental direction into cultural and scientific spheres where it does not belong—at least not in a democracy like ours.

Foundations, for their part, have no business accepting such money. They will only end by destroying their reputations as *private* foundations.

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