

Foreign Service Reform

To the Editor:

I read with interest your Jan. 15 profile article on the new "young Turk" officers in the "rebellious movement within the Department of State."

The American Foreign Service Association for all its reform publicity, in my opinion, still has not come to grips with the one overriding issue—the steady erosion of power away from the State Department which commenced in earnest with the establishment of an unnamed agency under one of the Dulles brothers and has continued apace.

Given this power erosion which comes up time and time again in Congressional hearings—i.e. see Senator John Sparkman's comments during

the questioning of Governor Rockefeller on the Latin-American trip—one is led to the conclusion that for those who wish to participate in the action rather than observe it—sound advice would be go West, young man, to Langley; go East, young man, to the National Security Council, or just go.

I agree with Charles William Bray 3d that Greek tragedy is a useful course for any aspirant diplomat — particularly if it sharpens one's in-house vision not only to recognize, but also to live with "tragic flaws."

KENNETH A. GUENTHER
Rockville, Md., Jan. 15, 1970
The writer is a former Foreign Service officer.

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