

Reports of CIA Snooping  
Inside President's Office  
**House Probers Say  
Agencies and Media  
Were Also Infiltrated**

Later clippings,  
same file.

NYT filed CIA (d).

Washington

The staff director of the House Select Committee on Intelligence has seen documents indicating that a high-level member of the Nixon White House staff was reporting to the Central Intelligence Agency on activities in and around the Oval Office, according to a source close to the committee's investigation.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said that the classified CIA materials viewed by A. Searle Field, the staff director, gave no evidence that the CIA "penetration," as he called it, was known to former President Nixon or those around him.

Representative Robert W. Kasten Jr., a member of the select committee, said later that "information presented to me by the staff" indicated that there had been similar "infiltration" by the CIA into the Office of Management and Budget, the Treasury Department, and the Commerce Department.

Kasten, a freshman Republican from Wisconsin, added that the practice by the CIA had extended to "more than one" presidential administration.

Kasten and Representative Ronald V. Dellums (Dem - Berkeley) said the select committee also has evidence of CIA infiltration of both broadcasting and print media.

a five-page memorandum prepared by Field for the ten select committee members, and made available yesterday to reporters, contained a reference that the source said was based on the document in question.

The memo contained a number of recommended areas of investigation, including "questionable matters not bearing on legitimate CIA functions, but bearing heavily on American citizens," among which, Field wrote, was "infiltration of the executive."

Field declined repeated requests from reporters to elaborate on his use of the word "infiltration" or to say whether the White House had been the agency of the executive branch to which he had referred.

A spokesman for the CIA

would say only that "there was no infiltration, quote unquote, there was no penetration, quote unquote, of the White House" by his agency during the five and a half years of the Nixon administration.

The source said that while he was not certain, he believed that the document

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## CIA

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that contained the suggestion of a high-level CIA operative inside the White House had been a report prepared by the inspector general's office of the CIA possibly sometime in 1973.

The source pointed out, however, that although a "logical" reading of the CIA document would lead to the conclusion that the CIA had placed a covert informer within the upper levels of the Nixon White House, there remained a "slim" chance that the language, which was not entirely explicit, "could possibly have been read another way."

He also confirmed an account of the CIA document Tuesday in which Sam Donaldson, a reporter for the American Broadcasting Co., said that the CIA infiltrator had ranked just below H. R. Haldeman, Mr. Nixon's chief of staff, and John D. Ehrlichman, his domestic adviser.

"It was the Oval Office" to which the man had had access, the source emphasized, and "not the White

House."

The future of the select intelligence investigating committee was plunged deeper into doubt yesterday as the House Rules Committee met to decide the fate of the panel, which has been all but immobilized by the animosity between its chairman, Representative Lucien N. Nedzi of Michigan, and most of its other Democratic members.

Three weeks ago, the committee Democrats learned that Nedzi had been briefed a year earlier on political assassination attempts by the CIA but, as head of a separate house subcommittee charged with overseeing the agency, had taken no steps to investigate the matter.

In an intramural committee move, the Democrats attempted to strip Nedzi of much of his power as chairman of the select panel.

Nedzi tried to resign his chairmanship, but his effort was rejected by the House.

The Rules Committee will vote today on which of the several alternative courses to pursue in abolishing or restructuring the panel.

New York Times