

CIA Use of Fairfax Police ID Reported

By Ronald Taylor

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Fairfax County police department identification credentials were prepared for Central Intelligence Agency operatives within the last five years, according to informed sources within the police department.

The sources said that at least 20 badges and badge cases were prepared for the CIA to provide them with "covers" when working within the county in which the agency is headquartered.

A CIA spokesman refused to comment on the matter yesterday, citing what he said was the agency's policy not to comment on the CIA's relationship, if any, with local police departments.

Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney Robert F. Horan said yesterday that he was told of the existence of the credentials about two years ago but added that he did not believe

the use of them by the CIA is illegal.

Horan said that, although he didn't know the extent of CIA activities in the county, "if they are active, it has been on a very limited basis."

"We do occupy a very peculiar situation because of the location of the CIA," he said. The headquarters for the agency is in McLean.

He also noted that allegations of CIA activities surfaced during a probe of the county police by the state police that he requested.

"It's just one more allegation and the state police haven't even looked into it yet," he said. The requested investigation was to look into alleged cronysism and misconduct within the 535-person police department.

Col. Richard A. King, who became county police chief last month, said he had been unaware of the existence or use, if any, of the credentials. He said he will initiate an in-

vestigation of the matter today.

King said yesterday he had never heard there were such credentials until a reporter asked him about them three weeks ago.

It could not be determined yesterday what, if anything, the credentials were used for. In yesterday's editions of the Washington Star-News, unnamed sources said that in 1971, during the peak of anti-war activities, CIA security officers used the credentials while infiltrating crowds of demonstrators gathered at CIA offices and investigating CIA employees alleged to have been involved in leaking classified information about foreign intelligence operations.

According to county police sources, the credentials carried pictures and signatures of persons who never worked for the county police department.

One source said he saw one

such set of credentials at police headquarters. The source, who has been close to department activities for nearly a decade, said the photograph was of a "white male in his 40s" whom the source had "never seen before."

This source and others noted that CIA equipment and training, as had been reported in the press in 1972, was received by county policemen in the early 1970s.

King said that when he looked into the matter yesterday he determined that there were some credentials proposed that were to be used by persons other than members of the county police force, but, he added "as far as I know, they never found their way outside the department."

Some of the badges, all of which were prepared for the rank of sergeant or above, have since been issued to sworn county police officers, King added.

"But there are a lot of things that go on in any organization that you don't know about," he said.

"I have to assure myself that things are going as they are supposed to go," King said.

"There could be some administrative impropriety and right now we don't need any of that."

King assumed the chief's post last month on the retirement of Col. William L. Durrer, who held the job for 17 years. Durrer could not be reached yesterday for comment about the credentials and the county police relationship, if any, with the CIA.

Some officers from police departments in Fairfax and Montgomery counties, as well as the District of Columbia, New York City and Boston, attended training sessions at a CIA facility in Suitland, Md., in 1973, the agency acknowledged publicly during House Judiciary Committee hearings in February 1973.

It was also learned yesterday that officers from Alexandria and Arlington had received CIA training. Arlington police chief Roy McLaren could not be reached for comment. Alexandria police chief John A. Hollan said, "We only participated once in 1973. It was a one-shot deal and we haven't participated since then."

The training included instruction in intelligence gathering, lock-picking and burglary and surveillance, the CIA said during the 1973 hearings.