

CIA Accused Of Plotting In Malagasy

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The Central Intelligence Agency was involved in the coup that overthrew the Malagasy Republic government and assassinated its leader in February, according to an article in the current issue of Penthouse magazine.

The article by former New York Times reporter Tad Szulc also said the CIA kept dossiers on Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (Dem-Minn.), and in the 1950s broke into the offices of the late Senators Joseph R. McCarthy (Rep-Wis.), and Robert Kerr (Dem-Okla.).

The article, entitled "Kissinger's Secret Empire," says that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger directs U.S. intelligence activities and that the cost of U.S. spying is about \$25 billion a year, more than previously reported.

The article says McCarthy's office was broken into because "the CIA was especially interested in the private sources that fed him the information to conduct his witch hunt" against supposed Communists.

The CIA, Szulc said, has ties to the police group that killed Malagasy President Richard Ratsimandrava on February 11. He said U.S. and CIA interest in what was formerly called Madagascar lay in getting military facilities at a former French base on the Indian Ocean near the entrance to the Persian Gulf.

United Press

See also WXP.7 May 75, filed CIA (S)