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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dech File

June 4, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER  
DONALD RUMSFELD ←  
PHILIP BUCHEN  
JACK MARSH

FROM: RODERICK HILLS RH

Attached is a copy of the "working copy" of Part 1 of the Rockefeller Commission Report. It is in the form submitted to the printers. Hopefully we will receive the rest of the report in comparable form in the next hour or two.

Since the attached is in a sense the summary, it perhaps will suffice for our meeting at 3 PM today.



WORKING COPY

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Domestic Activities of the Directorate of Operations

all copies



# Preface

lc President Gerald R. Ford created the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States on January 4, 1975. He directed the Commission to determine whether any domestic CIA activities exceeded the Agency's statutory authority and to make appropriate recommendations. The findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Commission are summarized in Chapter 3 and detailed with full background in subsequent chapters.

## A. ~~Summary of~~ Charges on CIA Domestic Activities

~~In recent years, charges that the CIA has conducted illegal activities within the United States, have aroused concern:~~ cap

—Because of the number and seriousness of alleged violations of law; and

—Because many of the Agency's activities are necessarily secret and therefore are not well understood by the American people.

violating  
the rights  
of private  
citizens

At the same time, many persons have voiced alarm that public controversy and exposure would seriously impair the CIA's ability to function—which in turn could seriously undermine the national security. Therefore, the President took steps designed to ~~ensure~~ ensure that the charges would be fully and impartially investigated and that necessary corrective actions would be taken.

~~The initial public charges involved:~~

- the
1. Large-scale spying on American citizens in the United States by CIA, whose responsibility is foreign intelligence.
  2. Keeping dossiers on large numbers of American citizens.
  3. Aiming these activities at Americans who have expressed their disagreement with various government policies.

These initial charges were subsequently supplemented by others including allegations that the CIA:

—Had intercepted and opened personal mail in the United States for 20 years;

—Had engaged in illegal wiretaps and break-ins;

(A)

move  
to new page 10  
(old 127)



move to  
new page 10 -  
old 127

em Had engaged in illegal  
wiretaps and break-ins;  
and,

(B)

VI

~~—Had infiltrated domestic dissident groups and otherwise  
intervened in domestic politics; and,  
—Had improperly assisted other government agencies.  
In addition, assertions have been made ostensibly linking the CIA  
to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.  
The matters listed above, and others, are dealt with in this report~~

### B. Alleged Plans To Assassinate Certain Foreign Leaders

However, after the Commission's inquiry was underway, the President requested it to investigate public allegations that the CIA had been involved in plans to assassinate certain leaders of foreign countries.  
The Commission's staff undertook this task, but time did not permit a full investigation before this report was due. In view of this, the President requested that the materials in the possession of the Commission which bear on these allegations be turned over to him. This is being done.

B.

### The President's Order

The President requested a report on many of the charges from the Director of Central Intelligence and received it in late December 1974. On January 4, 1975, he issued Executive Order No. 11828 establishing a Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States.<sup>1</sup> He assigned this Commission three tasks:

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- (1) Ascertain and evaluate any facts relating to activities conducted within the United States by the Central Intelligence Agency which give rise to questions of compliance with the provisions of 50 U.S.C. 403;<sup>2</sup>
- (2) Determine whether existing safeguards are adequate to prevent any activities which violate the provisions of 50 U.S.C. 403;

(The

President Ford appointed seven members of the Commission ~~the~~  
same day.

and  
designated

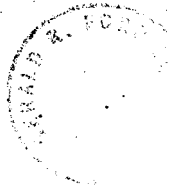
Subsequently, the President selected Nelson A. Rockefeller, the Vice President of the United States and former Governor of New York, who has held various posts in the Federal Government since 1940, as the eighth member and Chairman. The other members, all from private life, brought widely varied experience to the Commission.

(I,

<sup>1</sup> The Order is reprinted in full in Appendix I.  
<sup>2</sup> This statute established the CIA in 1947. It is reprinted in full in Appendix III.



(3) Make such recommendations to the President and to the Director of Central Intelligence as the Commission deems appropriate.



and  
design

Lyman L. Lemnitzer, General, U.S. Army (Retired)  
and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of  
Staff;

VII

John T. Connor, ~~the~~ Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Allied Chemical Corporation and former Secretary of Commerce (under President Johnson);

C. Douglas Dillon, a Managing Director of Dillon, Read & Co., Inc., an investment banking firm, a former Secretary of the Treasury (under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson) and former Ambassador to France and Undersecretary of State (under President Eisenhower);

Erwin N. Griswold, lawyer, former Solicitor General (under Presidents Johnson and Nixon) and former Dean of the Harvard Law School;

Lane Kirkland, ~~the~~ Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO;

Ronald Reagan, political commentator, former President of the Screen Actors' Guild, and former Governor of California; and

Edgar F. Shannon, Jr., Commonwealth Professor of English and former President of the University of Virginia.

The President named David W. Belin, a lawyer from Des Moines, Iowa, as the Commission's Executive Director. A staff of eleven lawyers, primarily from the private practice of law and with substantial investigative experience; ~~was identified and recommended to the Commission for appointment.~~

was recruited,

C.

#### D. Conduct of the Investigation

The Commission has been determined from its inception to make a thorough and vigorous investigation. Because of the sensitivity of the CIA's intelligence and counterintelligence activities, and their critical relationship to national security, the Commission recognized that it must close its sessions to the public. But as a consequence, it has felt all the more an obligation to conduct a diligent investigation, assuring the American people that all serious questions of legality and propriety within the area of responsibility assigned to the Commission have been carefully investigated and analyzed.

The CIA and other agencies were directed by the President to cooperate with the Commission ~~and they have done so~~. Much of the evidence the Commission examined has come from CIA files and personnel. But the Commission has sought to verify ~~all~~ the evidence independently, using available outside sources rather than relying solely on summaries or analyses of materials supplied by the CIA or other divisions of the federal government.

The Commission began weekly hearings within 8 days after its appointment and even before a full staff was available.

wherever possible

Nevertheless, the

The Commission believes that its investigation has disclosed the principal categories of CIA activities within the United States which might exceed its statutory authority or might adversely affect the rights of American citizens.

Recognizing that no investigation of any governmental intelligence agency can be certain of uncovering every relevant fact, the Commission feels, nevertheless, that it has developed facts sufficient to support the conclusions and recommendations made in this report.

The Commission recognizes



B. Alleged Plans to Assassinate Certain Foreign Leaders

Allegations that the CIA had been involved in plans to assassinate certain leaders of foreign countries came to the Commission's attention shortly after its inquiry was under way. Although it was unclear whether or not those allegations fell within the scope of the Commission's authority the Commission directed that a ~~preliminary~~ approach inquiry be undertaken. The President concurred in this approval.

The Commission's staff began the required inquiry but time did not permit a full investigation before this report was due. The President <sup>9</sup> therefore requested that the material in the possession of the Commission which bear on these allegations be turned over to him. This ~~is being~~ <sup>has been</sup> done.





Part I

*Summary of the Investigation*<sup>0</sup><sub>1</sub>



# Chapter 1

## The Fundamental Issues

In announcing the formation of this Commission, the President noted that an effective intelligence and counterintelligence capability is essential to provide "the safeguards that protect our national interest and help avert armed conflicts."

While it is vital that security requirements be met, the President continued, it is equally important that intelligence activities be conducted without "impairing our democratic institutions and fundamental freedoms."

The Commission's assessment of the CIA's activities within the United States reflects the members' deep concern for both individual rights and national security.

### A. Individual Rights

freedoms  
of  
speech  
and of  
the  
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and

The Bill of Rights in the Constitution protects individual liberties against encroachment by government. Many statutes and the common law also reflect this protection.

The First Amendment provides that Congress shall make no law ~~abridging freedom of speech~~, the right of the people to assemble peaceably, ~~or~~ the right to petition the government for redress of grievances. ~~It is equally applicable to the Executive Branch, and it has been construed to protect freedom of peaceable political association.~~ In addition, the Fourth Amendment declares:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated . . .

In accordance with the objectives enunciated in these and other Constitutional amendments, the Supreme Court has outlined the following basic Constitutional doctrines:

1. Any intrusive investigation of an American citizen by the

protects  
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government must have a sufficient basis to warrant the invasion caused by the particular investigative practices which are utilized;

2. Government monitoring of a citizen's political activities requires even greater justification;

3. The scope of any resulting intrusion on personal privacy must not exceed the degree reasonably believed necessary;

4. With certain exceptions, the scope of which are not sharply defined, these conditions must be met, at least for significant investigative intrusions, to the satisfaction of an uninvolved governmental body such as a court.

These Constitutional standards give content to an accepted norm of our society—the right of each person to a high degree of individual privacy.

In recognition of this right, President Truman and the Congress—in drafting the Act creating CIA in 1947—~~included a clause providing that CIA should have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers or internal security functions.~~

Since then, Congress has further outlined citizen rights in statutes dealing with electronic surveillance and ~~the contents of government files,~~<sup>1</sup> underscoring the general concern of Congress and the Executive Branch in this area.

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granting individuals access to certain information in

### B. Government Must Obey the Law

The individual liberties of American citizens depend on government observance of the law.

Under our form of Constitutional government, authority can be exercised only if it has been properly delegated to a particular department or agency by the Constitution or Congress.

Most delegations come from Congress; some are implied from the allocation of responsibility to the President. Wherever the basic authority resides, however, it is fundamental in our scheme of Constitutional government that agencies—including the CIA—shall exercise only those powers properly assigned to them by Congress or the President.

Whenever the activities of a government agency exceed its authority, individual liberty may be impaired.

<sup>1</sup> Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (18 U.S.C. Secs. 2510-20) and Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Sec. 552a).



### C. National Security

Individual liberties likewise depend on maintaining public order at home and in protecting the country against infiltration from abroad and armed attack. Ensuring domestic tranquility and providing for a common defense are not only Constitutional ~~aims~~ but necessary pre-conditions for a free, democratic system. The process ~~of~~ orderly and lawful change is the essence of democracy. Violent change, or forcing a change of government by the stealthy action of "enemies, foreign or domestic," are contrary to our Constitutional system. goals

use The Government has both the right and the obligation within Constitutional limits to ~~utilize~~ its available power to protect the people and their established form of government. Nevertheless, the mere invocation of the "national security" does not grant unlimited power to the Government. The degree of the danger and the type of action contemplated to meet that danger require careful evaluation, to ensure that ~~danger require careful evaluation, to ensure~~ that the danger is sufficient to justify the action and that fundamental rights are respected. of

### D. Resolving the Issues

Individual freedoms and privacy are fundamental in our society. Constitutional government must be maintained. An effective and efficient intelligence system is necessary; and to be effective, many of its activities must be conducted in secrecy.

Satisfying these objectives, ~~therefore~~ presents considerable opportunity for conflict. The vigorous pursuit of intelligence by certain methods can lead to invasions of individual rights. The preservation of individual liberties within the United States requires limitations or restrictions on gathering of intelligence. The preservation of the United States, ~~however~~ requires an effective intelligence capability, but The drawing of reasonable lines—where legitimate intelligence needs end and erosion of Constitutional government begins—is difficult.

In seeking to draw such lines, we have been guided in the first instance by the commands of the Constitution as they have been interpreted by the Supreme Court, the laws as written by Congress, and the values we believe are reflected in the democratic process, and the faith we have in a free society. We have also sought to be fully cognizant of the needs of national security, the requirements of a strong national defense against external aggression and internal subversion, and the duty of the government to protect its citizens.

In the final analysis, public safety and individual liberty sustain each other.

## Chapter 2

# *The Need for Intelligence*

During the period of the Commission's inquiry, there have been public allegations that a democracy does not need an intelligence apparatus. The Commission does not share this view. Intelligence is information gathered for policymakers in government which illuminates the range of choices available to them and enables them to exercise judgment. Good intelligence will not necessarily lead to wise policy choices. But without sound intelligence, national policy decisions and actions cannot effectively respond to actual conditions and reflect the best national interest or adequately protect our national security.

capa-  
bilities,

Intelligence gathering involves collecting information about other countries' military ~~forces~~, subversive activities, economic conditions, political developments, scientific and technological progress, and social activities and conditions. The raw information must be evaluated to determine its reliability and relevance, and must then be analyzed. The final products—called "finished intelligence"—are distributed to the President and the political, military and other governmental leaders according to their needs.

Intelligence gathering has changed rapidly and radically since the advent of the CIA in 1947.<sup>1</sup> The increased complexity of international political, economic, and military arrangements, the increased destructiveness of the weapons of modern warfare, and the advent of electronic methods of surveillance have altered and enlarged the needs for sophisticated intelligence. Intelligence agencies have had to rely more and more on scientific and technological developments to help meet these needs.

Despite the increasing complexity and significance of intelligence in national policymaking, it is also important to understand its limits. Not all information is reliable, even when the most highly refined

<sup>1</sup> The CIA is only one of several foreign intelligence agencies in the Federal government. Others include the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the intelligence branches of the three military services and the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research.



or the penetration  
of our intelligence  
services

are accurate or

intelligence methods are used to collect it. Nor can any intelligence system assure that its current estimates of another country's intentions or future capacities will not be outrun by unforeseen events. There are limits to accurate forecasting, and the use of deception by our adversaries increases the possibility that intelligence predictions may prove to be wrong. Nevertheless, informed decision-making is impossible without an intelligence system adequately protected from penetration.

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Therefore, modern intelligence also involves counterintelligence activities directed toward protecting our own intelligence system and ascertaining the activities of foreign intelligence services, including espionage, sabotage, and subversion, and minimizing or counteracting the effectiveness of these activities.

Program,

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toward

### Foreign Invasions of United States Privacy

the  
domestic

This Commission is devoted to analyzing activities of the CIA in the interest of protecting the privacy and security rights of American citizens. But we cannot ignore foreign invasion of the privacy and security rights of Americans. These are the other side of the coin—and they merit attention here in the interest of perspective.

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Agencies other than the CIA with responsibilities for counterintelligence have told the Commission that the United States remains the principal intelligence target of the communist bloc.

Wit-  
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it merits

The communists invest large sums of money, personnel and sophisticated technology in collecting information—within the United States—on our military capabilities, our weapons systems, our defense structure and our social divisions. The communists seek to penetrate our intelligence services, to compromise our law enforcement agencies and to recruit as their agents United States citizens holding sensitive government and industry jobs. In addition, it is a common practice in communist bloc countries to inspect and open mail coming from or going to the United States.

as well  
as the  
domestic  
counter-  
intelligence  
activities  
of the FBI,

In an open society such as ours, the intelligence opportunities for our adversaries are immeasurable greater than they are for us in their closed societies. Our society must remain an open one, with our traditional freedoms unimpaired. But when the intelligence activities of other countries are flourishing in the free environment we afford them, it is all the more essential that the foreign intelligence activities of the CIA, the domestic intelligence activities of the FBI and our other intelligence agencies be given the support they require to perform to their maximum effectiveness not only to protect our national security but also to shield the privacy and rights of American citizens from foreign intrusion.

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The Commission has received estimates that communist bloc intelligence forces currently number well over ~~2,000,000~~ worldwide.

The number of communist government officials in the United States has tripled since 1960, and is still increasing. Nearly 2,000 of them are now in this country—and 25 percent of them have been identified as members of intelligence or security agencies. Conservative estimates for the number of unidentified intelligence officers among the remaining officials raise the figure to over 40 percent.

~~The Commission recognizes that there are advantages to be gained by increasing the degree of exchange between these two societies with their widely differing concepts about individual freedom. But we have to be equally realistic regarding the attendant risks that call for a counterintelligence capability comparable to the growing challenge.~~

openly, many of whom have been trained in espionage,

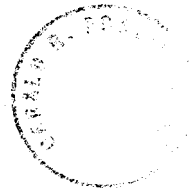
In addition to ~~openly~~ sending ~~substantial~~ numbers of their citizens to this country, communist bloc countries also place considerable emphasis on the training, provision of false identification and dispatching of "illegal" agents—that is, operatives for whom an alias identity has been systematically developed which enables them to live in the United States as American citizens or resident aliens without our knowledge.

increasing

of their true origins.

~~While ~~the~~ making large scale use of human intelligence sources,~~ the communist countries also have developed electronic collection of intelligence to an extraordinary degree of sophistication. Recent defectors report that these countries regularly monitor and record most of the telephone communications in major population centers of the United States. Hundreds of thousands of conversations are thus being intercepted, with particular telephone numbers sorted out by the use of computers. Radio microwave transmissions, which carry most of the communications in the United States, can be and are being monitored and transcribed on a continuing basis, night and day. American users of telephones who have anything to hide are therefore potentially subject to blackmail that can seriously affect their actions, or even lead in some cases to recruitment as espionage agents.

These foreign invasions of the privacy and security rights of Americans therefore demand our most serious concern. They do not in any sense justify unlawful activities of the CIA which impinge on the privacy and rights of American citizens. But they do argue strongly for strengthening the counterintelligence activities of the FBI within the United States, and for maintaining, if not increasing, the CIA's capacity for collecting foreign intelligence.



While making large-scale use of human intelligence sources, the communist countries also have developed electronic collection of intelligence to an extraordinary degree of technology and sophistication for use in the United States and ~~also~~ elsewhere throughout the world. Recent defectors report that these countries regular monitor and record telephone communications ~~also~~ throughout the ~~also~~ United States, including Washington and New York City. Hundreds of thousands of conversations are being intercepted daily, including those of ~~many~~ congressmen and other government officials, business and labor leaders, and private citizens.

American users of telephones who have anything to hide are potentially subject to blackmail that can seriously affect their actions, or even lead in some cases to recruitment as espionage agents. Even the millions of Americans who have nothing illegal to hide have a right to be uneasy, if not seriously disturbed, when they learn that their personal and business activities and thoughts they discuss freely over the telephone are being recorded and analyzed by agents of foreign powers. Such invasions of personal privacy are illegal and would not be tolerated if done by agents of our own government.

These foreign invasions of the privacy, rights, and security of Americans must be of the most serious concern to all citizens. They do not lessen censure of any unlawful activities of the CIA. But they do emphasize the need for vigilant counterintelligence activities by the FBI within the United States and for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of timely and accurate foreign intelligence by the CIA.





It became clear from the public reaction to these charges that

and its significant domestic activities that raise questions of compliance with the limits on its statutory authority

of FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, and RECOMMENDATIONS

### Chapter 3 Summary of the Investigation

As directed by the President, the Commission has investigated the role and authority of the CIA, the significant domestic activities of the Agency that raise questions of compliance with the limits on its statutory authority, and the adequacy of the internal controls and external supervision of the Agency. This chapter summarizes the findings and conclusions of the Commission and sets forth its recommendations.

The secrecy in which the Agency necessarily operates, combined with some of the more extravagant allegations of wrongdoing, has contributed to widespread public misunderstanding of the Agency's actual practices.

The Commission has determined that the great majority of the CIA's domestic activities raise no questions about compliance with the National Security Act. *comply with its statutory authority.*

Nevertheless, over the 28 years of its history, the CIA has engaged in some activities that should be criticized and not permitted to happen again—both in light of the limits imposed on the Agency by law and as a matter of public policy.

Some of these activities were initiated as ordered by Presidents, either directly or indirectly.

Some of these activities fall within the doubtful area between responsibilities delegated to the CIA by Congress and the National Security Council on the one hand and activities specifically prohibited to the Agency on the other.

Some of these activities were plainly unlawful and constituted improper invasions upon the rights of Americans.

The Agency's own recent actions, undertaken for the most part in 1973 and 1974, have gone far to cure the problems upon which this investigation has focused.

(127)

terminate the activities

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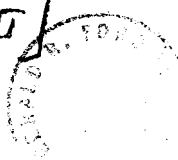
### A. Summary of Charges and Findings

The initial public charges were that the the CIA's domestic activities had involved:

[Pick up inserts A & B, pp. II-III]

A detailed analysis of the facts has convinced the Commission

designed authority, t recur-



(no 4)

— The ~~the~~ recommendations of the Commission are designed to clarify areas of ~~the~~ doubt concerning the Agency's authority, to strengthen the Agency's structure, and to guard against recurrences of these improprieties.



Chapters

11  
128

B.

A. The CIA's Role and Authority (See Chapter 4-6)

Findings

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The Central Intelligence Agency was established by the National Security Act of 1947 as the nation's first comprehensive peacetime foreign intelligence service. The objective was to provide the President with coordinated intelligence, which the country lacked prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. ~~Under the Act,~~ the Director of Central Intelligence reports directly to the President. The CIA receives its policy direction and guidance from the National Security Council, composed of the President, the Vice President, and the Secretaries of State and Defense.

51  
related

The statute directs the CIA to correlate, evaluate, and disseminate intelligence obtained from United States intelligence agencies, and to perform such other functions relating to intelligence as the National Security Council directs. Recognizing that the CIA would be dealing with sensitive, secret materials, Congress made the Director of Central Intelligence responsible for protecting sources and methods of intelligence from unauthorized disclosure.

intelligence

At the same time, Congress sought to assure the American public that it was not establishing a secret police which would threaten the civil liberties of Americans. It specifically forbade the CIA from exercising "police, subpoena, or law enforcement powers or internal security functions." The CIA was not to replace the Federal Bureau of Investigation in conducting domestic activities to prevent crime or internal subversion.

investigate

Although Congress contemplated that the focus of the CIA would be on foreign intelligence, it understood that some of its activities would be conducted within the United States. The CIA necessarily maintains its headquarters here, procures logistical support, recruits and trains employees, tests equipment, and conducts other domestic activities in support of its foreign intelligence mission. It makes necessary investigations in the United States to maintain the security of its facilities and personnel.

Additionally, it has been understood from the beginning that the CIA is permitted to collect overtly foreign intelligence—that is, information concerning foreign capabilities, intentions, and activities from American citizens within this country.

by overt means.

other

Determining the legal propriety of domestic activities of the CIA requires the application of the law to the particular facts involved. This task involves consideration of more than the National Security Act and the directives of the National Security Council; other constitutional and statutory provisions also circumscribe the domestic activities of the CIA. Among the former are the First Amendment,

Applicable constitutional provisions



Among the statutory provisions are those which

it has always been understood that the CIA's mission is

12  
129

protecting freedom of speech, of the press, and of peaceable assembly; and the Fourth Amendment, prohibiting unreasonable searches and seizures. ~~Specific statutes also~~ limit such activities as electronic eavesdropping and interception of the mails.

The precise scope of many of these statutory and constitutional provisions is not easily stated. The National Security Act in particular was drafted in broad terms in order to provide flexibility for the CIA to adapt to changing intelligence needs. Such critical phrases as "internal security functions" are left undefined. The meaning of the Director's responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure has also been a subject ~~to dispute~~.

of uncertainty

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The word "foreign" nowhere appears in the statutory grant of authority, though ~~the CIA has always regarded its mission as limited to matters related to foreign intelligence.~~ Other apparent statutory ambiguities, although not posing problems in practice, ~~has~~ troubled members of the public who read the statute without having the benefit of the legislative history and ~~instructions of the National Security Council.~~

This has

the instructions to the CIA from

### Conclusions

The evidence within the scope of this inquiry does not indicate that fundamental rewriting of the National Security Act is either necessary or appropriate.

and administrative

The evidence does demonstrate the need for some statutory clarification of the role and function of the Agency.

Ambiguities have been partially responsible for some, though not all, of the Agency's deviations within the United States from its assigned mission. In some cases, reasonable persons will differ as to the lawfulness of the activity; in others, the absence of clear guidelines as to its authority deprived the Agency of a means of resisting pressures to engage in activities which now appear to us improper.

Greater public awareness of the limits of the CIA's domestic authority would do much to reassure the American people.

a } The requisite clarification can best be accomplished (a) through specific amendment clarifying the National Security Act provision which delineates the permissible scope of CIA activities, as set forth in Recommendation 1, and (b) through issuance of an Executive Order further limiting domestic activities of the CIA, as set forth in Recommendation 2.

### Recommendation (1)

Section 403 of the National Security Act of 1947 should be amended in the form set forth in Appendix ~~II~~ to this Report. These amendments, in summary, would:

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VII

→ except as specified by the President in a published Executive Order,

SET ENTIRE PAGE B.F.

protecting against unauthorized disclosures within their own agencies and departments.)

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a. Make explicit that the CIA's activities must be related to foreign intelligence.

b. Clarify and make public the responsibility of the ~~Director of Central Intelligence~~ to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. (The ~~Director~~ would be responsible for protecting against unauthorized disclosures within the CIA) the heads of other agencies and departments would be responsible for protecting against unauthorized disclosures within their own agencies and departments, under the coordination of the ~~Director of Central Intelligence~~; and the ~~Director~~ would be responsible for providing technical assistance and guidance to other agency and department heads in carrying out this responsibility.)

CIA  
Agency  
and it

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c. Confirm publicly the CIA's existing authority to collect foreign intelligence from willing sources within the United States, and prohibit the CIA from collection efforts within the United States directed at securing information from unknowing American citizens.

foreign intelligence

Recommendation (2)

The President should by Executive Order prohibit the CIA from the collection of information about the domestic activities of United States citizens (whether by overt or covert means), the evaluation, correlation, and dissemination of analyses or reports about such activities, and the storage of such information, with exceptions for the following categories of persons or activities:

about the

a. Persons presently or formerly affiliated or being considered for affiliation with the CIA, directly or indirectly, or others who require clearance by the CIA to receive classified information;

clear

b. Persons or activities that pose a threat to CIA facilities or personnel, provided that proper coordination with the FBI is accomplished;

suspected of

c. Persons who there is reason to suspect are engaged in espionage or other illegal activities relating to foreign intelligence, provided that proper coordination with the FBI is accomplished.

Collection of information from normal library sources such as newspapers, books, magazines and other such documents is not to be affected by this order. Miscellaneous information received incidental to appropriate CIA activities may be transmitted to an agency with appropriate jurisdiction, including law enforcement agencies.

Information currently being maintained which is inconsistent with the order to be issued should be retained until all current investigations of the CIA are completed, or as may be required by law.

invest in.

destroyed at the conclusion of the current congressional investigations of as soon thereafter as permitted by law.

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(~~content~~ and set b.f.)

New ~~footnote~~ footnote 1, to be inserted on new page 13 (old 130):

<sup>1</sup> The Executive Order authorized by this statute should recognize that when the collection of foreign intelligence from persons who are not United States ~~citizens~~ citizens results in the incidental acquisition of information from unknowing citizens, the Agency should be permitted to ~~make~~ make appropriate use ~~of~~ or disposal of ~~such~~ such information. Such collection activities must be directed at foreign intelligence sources, and the involvement of American citizens must be incidental.

inconsistent with the Executive Order.

14  
131

its

The CIA should periodically rescreen those files and eliminate all material no longer of intelligence value.

The proposed Executive Order should be issued after consultation with the National Security Council, the Attorney General, and the Director of Central Intelligence. Any modification of the order would be permitted only through published amendments.

by J.

C

### B. Supervision and Control of the CIA

#### 1. External Controls (~~See~~ Chapter 7)

by the Congress.

#### Findings

insert from next page

The CIA is subject to supervision and control by various executive agencies and four Congressional Subcommittees.

bodies within the

The principal Executive Branch agencies are the National Security Council, which gives the CIA its policy direction and control; the Office of Management and Budget, which reviews the CIA's budget in much the same fashion as it reviews budgets of other government agencies; and the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. The last named is composed of distinguished citizens, serving part time in a general advisory function for the President on intelligence matters.

performing a supervisory or control function

which

None of these agencies has the specific responsibility of overseeing the propriety of CIA activities.

the quality of the gathering and interpretation of intelligence

the CIA to determine whether its activities are proper.

The Department of Justice also exercises an oversight role, through its power to initiate prosecutions for criminal misconduct. For a period of over 20 years, however, an agreement existed providing that the Agency was to investigate allegations of crimes by CIA employees or agents which involved Government money or property or might involve operational security. If, following the recommendation, the Agency determined that there was no reasonable basis to believe a crime had been committed, or that operational security aspects precluded prosecution, the case was not referred to the Department of Justice.

between the Department of Justice and the CIA

abdication

The Commission has found nothing to indicate that the CIA abused the function given it by the agreement. The agreement, however, involved the Agency directly in forbidden law enforcement activities, and represented an abandonment by the Department of Justice of its statutory responsibilities.

investigation

2/ The Intelligence Subcommittees of the Appropriations Committees and the Armed Services Committees of the two Houses.

To page 14  
(old 139)

15  
132

C

22  
2

Congress has established special procedures for review of the CIA and its secret budget within four small subcommittees. Historically, these subcommittees have been composed of ~~senior~~ members of Congress with many other demands on their time. The CIA has not as a general rule received detailed scrutiny by the Congress.

### Conclusions

D

To attach  
ment

improvement  
helpful

A new body is needed to provide oversight of the Agency within the Executive Branch. Because of the need to preserve security, the CIA is not subject to the usual constraints of audit, judicial review, publicity or open Congressional budget review and oversight. Consequently, its operations require additional external control. The authority assigned the job of supervising the CIA must be given sufficient power and significance to assure the public of effective supervision.

Some change in the Congressional oversight system would be ~~app~~ appropriate. The problem of providing adequate oversight and control while maintaining essential security is not easily resolved. Several knowledgeable witnesses pointed to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy as an appropriate model for Congressional oversight of the Agency. That Committee has had an excellent record of providing effective oversight while avoiding breaches of security in a highly sensitive area.

### ~~Recommendation (3)~~

~~a. The President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board should be reconstituted into an Executive Branch oversight body for the CIA, and appropriately renamed. Members of the board should be distinguished citizens from many backgrounds and areas who would serve part time with a permanent staff to assist them in their responsibilities.<sup>2</sup>~~

~~Commissioner Griswold makes the following dissenting statement at this point:  
"I believe that one of the underlying causes of the problems confronting the CIA arises out of the pervading atmosphere of secrecy in which its activities have been conducted in the past. One of the aspects of this is the secrecy of the budget. This leads to two difficulties: (a) apprehension on the part of the American public, because they have not even general information about what the CIA does, and (b) a certain vulnerability on the part of the CIA to pressures from without, and to over-enthusiasm from within, leading to actions which would not be undertaken in the open. In my opinion, Congress should give careful consideration to the question whether the budget of the CIA should not, at least to some extent, be made public, particularly in view of the provisions of Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the Constitution."~~

~~Commissioner Griswold does not concur in this recommendation and has written the following statement:~~

~~"I recognize the purpose behind this recommendation. My concern is that I do not think it will work. No one operating on a part-time basis can, I think, establish the contacts which are required for effective control. And I doubt that, in the long run, this can be accomplished through staff, though the assistance of a good staff can be of great importance. In~~

footnote 3, next page, comes here with the text.



One of the underlying causes of the problems confronting the CIA arises out of the pervading atmosphere of secrecy in which its activities have been conducted in the past. One aspect of this has been the secrecy of the budget.

*pick up (D) (p. 15, old 132)*

The situation whereby the Agency determined whether its own employees would be prosecuted must not be permitted to recur.

*insert (E), page 16 (old 133)*



b. The Board should have access to all information in the CIA. It should be authorized to audit and investigate CIA expenditures and activities on its own initiative. ~~It should annually study the Agency's budget and make recommendations to the President concerning it.~~

c. The Inspector General of the CIA should be authorized to report directly to the Board, after having notified the Director of Central Intelligence, in cases he deems appropriate.

to page 15

3 Recommendation (A)

E

1.7 The President should recommend to Congress the establishment of a Joint Committee on Intelligence to assume the oversight role currently played by the Armed Services Committee.<sup>3</sup>

~~my opinion something more effective must be established than can be developed through a reconstitution of the President's Advisory Board.~~

"Another suggestion has been advanced, which seems to me to be worthy of careful consideration.

"When the National Security Act was passed in 1947, it was contemplated and understood that the basic function of the Central Intelligence Agency would be 'coordinating the intelligence activities of the several Government departments and agencies in the interest of national security. The Central Intelligence Agency was given no direct authority to 'collect' intelligence, and the growth of its activities in that field, and in the field of active operations, has been a development since the enactment of the National Security Act. It is, however, recognized that the Director of Central Intelligence has two functions. One is his responsibility to coordinate the intelligence activities of the several Government departments and agencies, and the other is his responsibility as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. There are in fact a number of government intelligence agencies, some of which may involve the same sort of policy questions as are raised and discussed in the Commission's report.

"The Director of Central Intelligence is, in fact, extraordinarily busy with his dual responsibilities. In my view, it would now be desirable to divide these responsibilities between two different officers. Such a division, in addition to making the task more manageable, might have the added advantage of providing a means for the sort of informed but independent supervision and control which has often been lacking in the past.

"Such a development would, of course, require careful consideration and formulation by Congress. Congress could set up a Director of Central Intelligence, with an appropriate staff, and could assign to him the duty of coordinating all government intelligence activities, and also the responsibility of supervising them, particularly with respect to the appropriateness and legality of their operations and their conformance with constitutional requirements and broadly viewed American interests.

"There would then be another officer, who might be called the Director of National Intelligence, or, simply, the Intelligence Director. The name of the present C.I.A. would be changed to National Intelligence Agency, since 'Central Intelligence Agency' has not been an accurate description of the Agency as it has developed. The Director of National Intelligence would report to the outside Director of Central Intelligence, and would be subject to his supervision and control in important policy questions. The Director of Central Intelligence should be a person of national standing and highest probity. He should have an adequate staff, and would operate on a full time and continuously responsible basis. In this way, a sympathetic and understanding authority outside the National Intelligence Agency would be established which could exercise the control which is needed, in a broad perspective.

"I have not had time to work out the details of this suggestion, which did not originate with me. It has seemed to me, though, to be worthy of careful consideration, and so I include it in this separate statement."

~~Commissioner Griswold adds the following statement:~~

"The assignment given to the Commission relates only to the domestic activities of the C.I.A. But the problems which have arisen in the domestic field cannot be fully understood and evaluated unless they are viewed against the role which the CIA has undertaken to play outside the United States. Because of the secret nature of its operations, legal and

↳ move to p. — Cold p.

3 See statement by Commissioner Griswold, Chapter 7, p. —

Under a set of.

Recommendation (6)

The Department of Justice and the ~~Department of Justice~~ CIA should establish written guidelines for the handling of reports of criminal violations by employees of the Agency or relating to its affairs. These guidelines should require that the criminal investigation and the decision ~~as to~~ whether to prosecute be made by the Department of Justice, after consideration of Agency views regarding the impact of prosecution on the national security. The Agency should be permitted to conduct such investigation as it requires to determine whether its operations ~~are~~ have been jeopardized. The Agency should scrupulously avoid exercise of the ~~prosecutorial~~ prosecutorial ~~function~~ function.

Recommendation (4)

Congress should give careful ~~and~~ consideration to the question whether the budget of the CIA should not, at least to some extent, be made public, ~~particularly~~ particularly in view of the ~~constitutional~~ provisions of Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the Constitution. <sup>4</sup>

Recommendation (5)

a. The functions of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board should be expanded to include oversight of the CIA. This expanded oversight board should be composed of distinguished citizens with varying ~~backgrounds~~ backgrounds and experience. It should be headed by a full-time chairman and should have a full-time staff appropriate to its role. Its functions related to the CIA should include:

1. Assessing compliance by the CIA with its statutory authority.
2. Assessing the quality of foreign intelligence ~~collection~~ collection.
3. Assessing the quality of foreign intelligence estimates.
4. Assessing the quality of the organization of the CIA.
5. Assessing the quality of the ~~management~~ management of the CIA.
6. Making recommendations with respect to the above subjects to the President and the Director of Central Intelligence, and, where appropriate, the Attorney General.

~~not~~  
set b.f.

not  
G.J.

*9/10/100*

4 "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in  
Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular  
Statement and Account of the Receipts ~~h~~ and Expenditures  
of all public Money shall be published from time to time."

~~and set~~  
*of.*

2. Internal Controls (Chapter 8)

Findings

of Central Intelligence.

The Director's duties in administering the intelligence community, handling relations with other components of the government, and passing on broad questions of policy leave him little time for day-to-day supervision of the Agency. Past studies have noted the need for the Director to delegate greater responsibility for the administration of the Agency to the Deputy Director.

In recent years, the position of Deputy Director has been occupied by a high-ranking military officer, with responsibilities for maintaining liaison with the Department of Defense, fostering the Agency's relationship with the military services, and providing top CIA management with necessary experience and skill in understanding particular intelligence requirements of the military. Generally speaking, the Deputy Directors of Central Intelligence have not been heavily engaged in administration of the Agency.

Outside the chain of command, the primary internal mechanism for keeping the Agency within bounds is the Inspector General. The size of this office was recently sharply reduced, and its previous practice of making regular reviews of various Agency departments was terminated. At the present time, the activities of the office are almost entirely concerned with coordinating Agency responses to the various investigating bodies, and with various types of employee grievances.

The Office of General Counsel has on occasion played an important role in preventing or terminating Agency activities in violation of law, but many of the questionable or unlawful activities discussed ~~above~~ were not brought to the attention of this office. ~~It is possible that~~ a certain parochialism ~~has~~ resulted from the fact that attorneys in the office have little or no legal experience outside the Agency. It is important that the Agency receive the best possible legal advice on the often difficult and unusual situations which confront it.

in this report

may have

moral limitations may not always be kept in mind. In this situation, it should not be surprising that personnel, when working in the United States, should not always feel that they are subject to ordinary restraints.

"Congress should, in my opinion, decide by law whether and to what extent the CIA should be an action organization, carrying out operations as distinguished from the gathering and evaluation of intelligence. If action operations were limited, there would be a lessened need for secrecy, and the adverse effect which the activities of the CIA sometimes have on the credibility of the United States would be modified.

"One of the great strengths of this country is a deep and wide-flung capacity for goodwill. Those who represent us, both at home and abroad, should recognize the potentiality of that goodwill and take extreme care not to undermine it, lest their efforts be in fact counterproductive to the long-range security interests of the United States."

P. move to Cold P. -

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Each of the four directorates within the CIA--  
Operations, Intelligence, Administration, and Science and  
Technology--is headed by a deputy director who reports to  
the Director and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.  
These four deputies, together with certain other top Agency  
officials such as the ~~C~~<sup>MP</sup>ontroller, form the Agency Manage-  
ment Committee, which makes many of the administrative and  
management decisions affecting more than one directorate.

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have

### Conclusions

In the final analysis, the proper functioning of the Agency must depend in large part on the character of <sup>the</sup> Director of Central Intelligence.

The best assurance against misuse of the Agency lies in the appointment to that position of persons with the judgment, courage, and independence to resist improper pressure and importuning, whether from the White House, within the Agency or elsewhere.

Experience in intelligence services is not necessarily a prerequisite for the position; management and administrative skills are at least as important as the technical expertise which can always be found in an able deputy.

Compartmentation within the Agency, although certainly appropriate for security reasons, has sometimes been carried to extremes which prevent proper supervision and control. There are dangers in excessive parochialism.

*improper*  
The Agency must rely on the discipline and integrity of the men and women it employs. Many of the activities we have found to be unwise or unlawful were in fact questioned by lower-level employees who were able to make their views known to top management. Bringing such situations to the attention of upper levels of management is ~~the whole point~~ of a system of internal controls.

*one of the purposes of*

*Set  
b.f.*

#### Recommendation (5)

a. Persons appointed to the position of Director of Central Intelligence should be individuals of stature, independence, and integrity. They should ~~from time to time be drawn~~ from outside the career service of the CIA, *although promotion from within should not be barred.*

b. Although the Director serves at the pleasure of the President, no Director should serve in that position for more than 10 years.

#### Recommendation (6)

a. The Office of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence should be reconstituted to provide for two such deputies. One deputy would act as the ~~chief~~ administrative officer or chief of staff, freeing the Director from day-to-day management duties. The other deputy should be a military officer, serving the functions of fostering relations with the military and providing the Agency with technical expertise on military intelligence requirements.

b. The advice and consent of the Senate should be required for the appointment of each Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.

*Set  
b.f.*

*In making this appointment, consideration should be given to individuals*

*in addition to the four heads of the Agency's directorates.*

*Not*

*8/7*

*7*

*8*

*8/5/7*



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136

Recommendation (9)

9

a. The Inspector General should be upgraded to a status equivalent to that of the deputy directors in charge of the four directorates within the CIA.

b. The Office of Inspector General should be staffed by outstanding, experienced officers from both inside and outside the CIA, with ability to understand the various branches of the Agency.

c. The Inspector General's duties with respect to domestic CIA activities should include periodic reviews of all offices within the United States. He should examine each office for compliance with CIA authority and regulations as well as for the effectiveness of their programs in implementing policy objectives.

statute

d. The Inspector General should investigate all reports from employees concerning possible violations of the CIA charter.

e. The Inspector General should be given complete access to all information in the CIA relevant to his reviews.

f. An effective Inspector General's office will require a larger staff, more frequent reviews, and highly qualified personnel.

provided to

g. Inspector General reports should be available for examination by the National Security Council and the appropriate executive oversight body. The Inspector General should have the authority, when he deems it appropriate, after notifying the Director of Central Intelligence, to consult with the executive oversight body on any CIA activity (see Recommendation 5).

recommended

Recommendation (10)

10

a. The Director should review the composition and operation of the Office of General Counsel and the degree to which this office is consulted to determine whether the Agency is receiving adequate legal assistance and representation in view of current requirements.

b. Consideration should be given to measures which would strengthen the office's professional capabilities and resources including, among other things, (1) occasionally departing from the existing practice of hiring lawyers from within the Agency to bring in seasoned lawyers from private practice as well as to hire law school graduates without prior CIA experience; (2) occasionally assigning Agency lawyers to serve a tour of duty elsewhere in the government to expand their experience; (3) encouraging lawyers to participate in outside professional activities.

To a degree consistent with the need for security the

Recommendation (11)

11

The CIA should be encouraged to provide for increased lateral movement of personnel among the directorates and to bring persons with outside experience into the Agency at all levels.

12

**Recommendation (4)**

a. The Agency should issue detailed guidelines for its employees further specifying those activities within the United States which are permitted and those which are prohibited by statute, Executive Orders, and NSC and DCI directives.

b. These guidelines should also set forth the standards which govern CIA activities and the general types of activities which are permitted and prohibited. They should, among other things, specify

~~The~~ clandestine collection of intelligence directed against United States citizens is prohibited except as specifically permitted by law or published executive order.

~~The~~ unlawful methods or activities are prohibited.

~~The~~ prior approval of the DCI shall be required for any activities which may raise questions of compliance with the law or with Agency regulations.

c. The guidelines should also provide that employees with information on possibly improper activities are to bring it promptly to the attention of the Director of Central Intelligence or the Inspector General.

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Commission

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**C. Significant Areas of Investigation  
Introduction**

Domestic activities of the CIA raising substantial questions of compliance with the law have been closely examined to determine the context in which they were performed, the pressures of the times, the relationship of the activity to the Agency's foreign intelligence assignment and to other CIA activities, the procedures used to authorize and conduct the activity, and the extent and effect of the activity.

In describing and assessing each such activity, it has been necessary to consider both that activity's relationship to the legitimate national security needs of the nation and the threat such activities might pose to individual rights of Americans and to a society founded on the need for government, as well as private citizens, to obey the law.

I

**1. The CIA's Mail Intercepts (Chapter 9)**

**Findings**

At the time the CIA came into being, one of the highest national intelligence priorities was to gain an understanding of the Soviet Union and its worldwide activities affecting our national security.

In this context, the CIA began in 1952 a program of surveying mail between the United States and the Soviet Union as it passed through

a New York postal facility. In 1953 it began opening some of this mail. The program was expanded over the following two decades and ultimately involved the opening of many letters and the analysis of envelopes, or covers, of a great many more letters.

cc/

The New York mail intercept was designed to attempt to identify persons within the United States who were cooperating with the Soviet Union and its intelligence forces to harm the United States. It was also intended to determine technical communications procedures and mail censorship techniques used by the Soviets.

The Director of the Central Intelligence Agency approved commencement of the New York mail intercept in 1952. During the ensuing years, so far as the record shows, Postmasters General Summerfield, Day, and Blount were informed of the program in varying degrees, as was Attorney General Mitchell. Since 1958, the FBI was aware of this program and received 57,000 items from it.

examined the outside of

A 1962 CIA memorandum indicates the Agency was aware that the mail openings would be viewed as violating federal criminal laws prohibiting obstruction or delay of the mails.

In the last year before the termination of this program, out of 4,350,000 items of mail sent to and from the Soviet Union, the New York intercept ~~screened~~ 2,300,000 of these items, photographed 33,000 envelopes, and opened 8,700.

The mail intercept was terminated in 1973 when Chief Postal Inspector ~~Cotter~~ refused to allow its continuation without a very high-level approval.

2

The CIA also ran much smaller mail intercepts for brief periods in San Francisco between 1969 and 1971 and in the territory of Hawaii during 1954 and 1955. For a short period in 1957 mail in transit between foreign countries was intercepted in New Orleans.

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The mail openings also raise constitutional questions under **Conclusions**

While in operation, the CIA's domestic mail opening programs were unlawful. United States statutes specifically forbid opening the mail.

These the Fourth Amendment guarantees against unreasonable search, and the scope of the New York project poses possible difficulties with the First Amendment rights of speech and press.

~~The mail cover aspects (i.e., examination of envelopes only) of the mail projects were not unlawful.~~

eventually The nature and degree of assistance given by the CIA to the FBI in the New York mail project indicate that, eventually, the CIA's primary purpose became ~~assistance to~~ the FBI in internal security functions. This was improper under the National Security Act.

Accordingly, the CIA's participation was prohibited

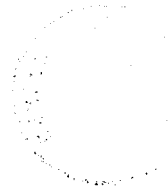
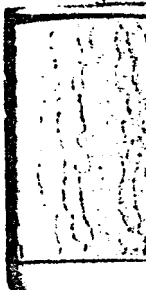
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Mail cover operations (examination<sup>ing</sup> and copying of envelopes only) are legal when carried out in compliance with postal regulations on a limited and selective<sup>ive</sup> basis involving matters of national security. The New York mail intercept did not meet ~~the~~ these criteria.



except with express statutory authority in time of war.

3

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Organization

Recommendation (1)

a. The President should instruct the Director of Central Intelligence that the CIA is not to engage in domestic mail openings in times of peace (see also Recommendation 1 in this Report)

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b. The President should instruct the Director of Central Intelligence that mail cover examinations are to be in compliance with postal regulations; they are to be undertaken only in furtherance of legitimate foreign intelligence activities and then only on a limited and selected basis clearly involving matters of national security.

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2. Intelligence Activities Relating to Domestic Dissidence (see Chapter 10)

Findings

of growing  
domestic  
disorder

The late 1960's and early 1970's were marked by widespread violence and civil disorder. Demonstrations, marches and protest assemblies were frequent in a number of cities. University and college campuses became places of disruption and unrest. Government facilities were picketed and sometimes invaded. Threats of bombing and bombing incidents occurred frequently. In Washington and other major cities, special security measures had to be instituted to control the access to public buildings.

The stated  
purpose of  
CIA's partic-  
ipation was  
to supply

As a result, the Department of Justice, starting in 1967 at the direction of Attorney General Clark, coordinated a series of secret units and interagency groups in an effort to collate and evaluate intelligence relating to these events. These efforts continued until 1973.

The interagency committees were designed for analytic and not operational purposes. They were created as a result of White House pressure which began in 1967 because the FBI performed only limited evaluation and analysis of the information it collected on these events. The CIA participated for the purpose of supplying relevant foreign intelligence and furnishing advice on evaluation techniques.

To  
furnish

The CIA was reluctant to become unduly involved in these groups, which had problems of domestic unrest as their principal focus. It repeatedly refused to assign full-time personnel to any of them.

committees

The most active of the groups was the Intelligence Evaluation Staff, which met from January 1971 to May 1973. A CIA liaison officer attended over 100 weekly meetings of the Staff, some of which concerned drafts of reports which had no foreign aspects. There is no evidence that he acted in any capacity other than as an adviser on foreign intelligence, and, to some degree, as an editor.

committees

\*The liaison officer was Chief of the CIA's Special Operations Group which ran Operation CHAOS, discussed in Chapter 11 of this Report.

With the exception of one instance, there

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On one occasion, ~~however~~ the CIA liaison officer appears to have caused a CIA agent to gather domestic information which was reported to the Intelligence Evaluation Staff. 2

The Commission found no evidence of other activities by the CIA that were conducted on behalf of the Department of Justice groups except for the supplying of appropriate foreign intelligence and advice on evaluation techniques.

### *Conclusions*

The statutory prohibition on internal security functions does not preclude the CIA from providing foreign intelligence or advice on evaluation techniques to interdepartmental intelligence evaluation organizations having some domestic aspects. The statute was intended to promote coordination, not compartmentation of intelligence between governmental departments.

The attendance of the CIA liaison officer at over 100 meetings of the Intelligence Evaluation Staff, some of them concerned wholly with domestic matters, nevertheless created at least the appearance of impropriety. The Director of Central Intelligence was well advised to approach such participation reluctantly.

The liaison officer acted improperly in the one instance in which he directed an agent to gather domestic information within the United States which has reported to the Intelligence Evaluation Staff.

Much of the problem stemmed from the absence in Government of any organization capable of adequately analyzing intelligence collected by the FBI on matters outside the purview of CIA.

#### *Recommendation (12)*

to a. A capability should be developed within the FBI, or elsewhere in the Department of Justice, to evaluate, analyze, and coordinate intelligence and counterintelligence collected by the FBI concerning espionage, terrorism, ~~subversion~~, and other related matters of internal security. (4)

b. The CIA should restrict its participation in any joint intelligence committees to foreign intelligence matters.

c. The FBI should be encouraged to continue to look to the CIA for such foreign intelligence and counter-intelligence as is relevant to FBI needs. G.F.

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8

3. Special Operations Group—"Operation CHAOS" (~~see~~ Chapter 11)

Findings

Many

The late 1960s and early 1970s were marked by widespread violence and civil disorder. Demonstrations, marches and protest assemblies were frequent in a number of cities. University and college campuses became places of disruption and unrest. Government facilities were picketed and sometimes invaded. Threats of bombing and bombing incidents occurred frequently. In Washington and other major cities, special security measures had to be instituted to control the access to public buildings.

As a result, the Department of Justice, starting in 1967 at the direction of Attorney General Clark, coordinated a series of secret units and interagency groups in an effort to collate and evaluate intelligence relating to these events. These efforts continued until 1973.

The interagency committees were designed for analytic and not operational purposes. They were created as a result of White House pressure which began in 1967 because the FBI performed only limited evaluation and analysis of the information it collected on these events. The CIA participated for the purpose of supplying relevant foreign intelligence and furnishing advice on evaluation techniques.

Responding to Presidential requests made in the face of domestic disorder, the Director of Central Intelligence in August 1967 established a Special Operations Group within the CIA to collect, coordinate, evaluate and report on the extent of foreign influence on domestic dissidence.

growing

the

The Group's activities, which later came to be known as Operation CHAOS, led the CIA to collect information on dissident Americans from CIA field stations overseas and from the FBI.

Although the stated purpose of the Operation was to determine whether there were any foreign contacts with American dissident groups, it resulted in the accumulation of considerable material on domestic dissidents and their activities.

During six years, the Operation compiled some 13,000 different files, including files on 7,200 American citizens. The documents in these files and related materials included the names of more than 300,000 persons and organizations, which were entered into a computerized index.

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Using This information was kept closely guarded within the CIA to prevent its use by anyone other than the personnel of the Special Operations Group. Utilizing this information, personnel of the Group prepared 3,500 memoranda for internal use; 3,000 memoranda for dissemination to the FBI; and 37 memoranda for distribution to White House and other top level officials in the Government.

cap 9 As a result of repeated Presidential requests for a greater effort, the staff assigned to the Operation was steadily enlarged, ultimately reaching a maximum of 52 in 1971. Because of excessive compartmentalization, the Operation was substantially isolated from meaningful review within the Agency, including review by the Counterintelligence Staff—of which the Operation was technically a part.

isolation Commencing in late 1969, Operation CHAOS used a number of agents to collect intelligence abroad on any foreign connections with American dissident groups. In order to have sufficient "cover" for these agents, the Agency recruited persons from domestic dissident groups or recruited others and instructed them to associate with such groups in this country.

in response to repeated presidential requests for additional information

insulated Most of the Operation's recruits were not directed to collect information domestically on American dissidents. On a number of occasions, however, such information was reported by the recruits while they were developing dissident credentials in the United States, and the information was retained in the files of the Operation. On three occasions, an agent of the Operation was specifically ~~used~~ to collect domestic intelligence.

Operation No evidence was found that any Operation CHAOS agent used or was directed by the Agency to use electronic surveillance, wiretaps or break-ins in the United States against any dissident individual or group.

directed

Activity of the Operation decreased substantially by mid-1972. The Operation was formally terminated in March 1974.

### Conclusions

Some domestic activities of Operation CHAOS unlawfully exceeded the CIA's statutory authority, even though the declared mission of gathering intelligence abroad as to foreign influence on domestic dissident activities was proper.

6 On three occasions, an agent of the Operation was used to gather information within the United States on strictly domestic matters. In addition, some intelligence disseminations by the Operation and a portion of a major study prepared by the Agency dealt with purely domestic matters. These activities were improper.



The FBI would collect information but would not evaluate it.

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and much of it was not directly related to the question of the existence of foreign connections.

Most significantly, the Operation became a repository for large quantities of information on the domestic activities of American citizens. This information was derived principally from FBI reports or from overt sources and not from clandestine collection by the CIA.

It was probably necessary for the CIA to accumulate an information base on domestic dissident activities in order to assess fairly whether the activities had foreign connections. But the accumulation of domestic data in the Operation exceeded what was reasonably required to make such an assessment and was thus improper.

The isolation of Operation CHAOS within the CIA and its independence from supervision by the regular chain of command within the clandestine service made it possible for the activities of the operation to stray over the bounds of the Agency's authority without the knowledge of senior officials. The absence of any regular review of these activities prevented timely correction of such missteps as did occur.

5 Recommendation (1b)

A.S.O.

- a. Presidents should refrain from directing the CIA to perform what are essentially internal security tasks.
- b. The CIA should resist any efforts, whatever their origin, to involve it again in such improper activities.
- c. The Agency should guard against allowing any component (like the Special Operations Group) to become so self-contained and isolated from top leadership that regular supervision and review are lost.
- d. The files of the CHAOS project which have no foreign intelligence value should be destroyed by the Agency at the conclusion of the current Congressional investigations, or as ~~may~~ permitted by law.

4. Protection of the Agency Against Threats of Violence (Chapter 12)

soon thereafter as

Findings

Office of Security

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The CIA was not immune from the threats of violence and disruption during the period of domestic unrest between 1967 and 1972. The Office of Security was charged throughout this period with the responsibility of assuring the continued functioning of the CIA.

The Office therefore, from 1967 to 1970, had its field officers collect information from published materials, law enforcement authorities, other agencies and college officials before sending recruiters to some campuses. Monitoring and communications support was provided to recruiters when trouble was expected.

were sent

The use of agents of the Operation on three occasions to gather information within the United States on strictly domestic matters was beyond the CIA's authority. In addition the intelligence disseminations and those portions of a major study prepared by the Agency which dealt with ~~some~~ purely domestic matters were improper.

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and they performed them on a part-time basis.

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or other

The Office was also responsible, with the approval of the Director of Central Intelligence, for a program from February 1967 to December 1968, which at first monitored, but later infiltrated, dissident organizations in the Washington, D.C. area to determine if the groups planned any activities against Government installations.

At no time were more than 12 persons performing these tasks. The project was terminated when the Washington Metropolitan Police Department developed its own intelligence capability.

In December, 1967, the Office began a continuing study of dissident activity in the United States. This Office used information from published and other voluntary knowledgeable sources. This small Office produced weekly Situation Information Reports analyzing dissident activities and providing calendars of future events. Calendars were given to the Secret Service, but the CIA made no other disseminations outside the Agency. About 500 to 800 files were maintained on dissenting organizations and individuals. Thousands of names in the files were indexed. Report publication was ended in late 1972, and the entire project was ended in 1973.

exceeded the CIA's statutory authority.

### Conclusions

The program under which the Office of Security rendered assistance to Agency recruiters on college campuses was justified as an exercise of the Agency's responsibility to protect its own personnel and operations. Such support activities were not undertaken for the purpose of protecting the facilities or operations of other governmental agencies, or to maintain public order or enforce laws.

The Agency should not infiltrate a dissident group for security purposes unless there is a clear and present danger to Agency installations, operations or personnel and investigative coverage of the threat by the FBI and local law enforcement authorities is inadequate. The Agency's infiltration of dissident groups in the Washington area went far beyond steps necessary to protect the Agency's own facilities, personnel and operations, and was therefore unlawful.

In addition, the Agency undertook to protect other Government departments and agencies—a police function prohibited to it by statute.

Intelligence activity directed toward learning from what sources a domestic dissident group receives its financial support within the United States, and how much income it has, is no part of the authorized security operations on the Agency. Neither is it the function of the Agency to compile records on who attends peaceful meetings of such dissident groups, or what each speaker has to say (unless it relates to disruptive or violent activity which may be directed against the Agency).



But the accumulation of information on domestic activities went beyond what was required by the Agency's legitimate security needs and therefore exceeded the CIA's authority.

(actions)

exceeded the CIA's authority

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for purposes of security

The Agency's ~~action~~ in contributing funds, photographing people, activities and cars, and following people home were unreasonable under the circumstances and therefore ~~unlawful~~.

Office of Security

With certain exceptions, the program under which the ~~Agency~~ (without infiltration) gathered, organized and analyzed information about dissident groups was within the CIA's charter. There were legitimate needs for some of the information gathered and used.

was

The accumulation of reference files on dissident organizations and their leaders ~~may have been~~ appropriate both to evaluate the risks posed to the Agency and to develop an understanding of dissident groups and their differences for security clearance purposes. The ~~apparent number of names indexed to the files in this program exceeded the Agency's legitimate security needs and was improper.~~

authority

6

Recommendation (1)

The CIA should ~~prohibit any of its components from infiltrating~~ dissident groups or other organizations of Americans in the absence of a written determination by the Director of Central Intelligence that such action is necessary to meet a clear and present danger to Agency facilities, operations, or personnel and that adequate coverage by law enforcement agencies is unavailable.

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b.f.

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Recommendation (1b)

All files on individuals, accumulated by the Office of Security in the program relating to dissidents should be identified, and, except where necessary for a legitimate foreign intelligence activity, be destroyed upon completion of the ~~current~~ investigations, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law.

b.f.

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5. Other Investigation by the Office of Security (~~see~~ Chapter 13)

at the conclusion of the current Congressional

Findings

The Office of Security has also been called upon a number of occasions to investigate specific allegations that intelligence sources and methods were threatened. The Commission's inquiry concentrated on those investigations which used investigative means intruding on the privacy of the subjects, such as surveillance.

Get typed

The great bulk of these investigations were directed at persons affiliated with the Agency—such as employees, former employees, foreign persons used by the Agency as intelligence sources, and defectors.

INSERT

A few investigations involving intrusions on personal privacy were directed at subject with no relationship to the Agency. Five of these

'A'



Insert 'A'

5. Other Investigations by the Office of Security (Chapter 13)

A. Security Clearance Investigations of Prospective Employees and Operatives

Findings and Conclusions

The Office of Security routinely conducts standard security investigations of persons seeking affiliation with the Agency. In doing so, the Office is performing the necessary function of screening persons to whom it will make available classified information. Such investigations are necessary, and no improprieties were found in connection with them.

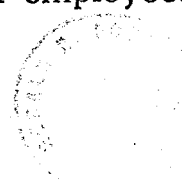
B. Investigations of Possible Breaches of Security

1. Persons Investigated

Findings

The Office of Security has been called upon on a number of occasions to investigate specific allegations that intelligence sources and methods were threatened by unauthorized disclosures. The Commission's inquiry concentrated on those investigations which used investigative means intruding on the privacy of the subjects, including physical and electronic surveillance, unauthorized entry, mail covers and intercepts, and reviews of individual federal tax returns.

The large majority of these investigations were directed at persons affiliated with the Agency--such as employees, former employees, and



foreign nationals used by the Agency as intelligence sources and defectors.

A few investigations involving intrusions on personal privacy were directed at subjects with no relationship to the Agency. The Commission has found no evidence that any such investigations were directed against any senator, congressman, judge or other public official<sup>o</sup>. Five were directed against newsmen, in an effort to determine their sources of leaked classified information, and nine <sup>were directed</sup> against other United States citizens.

The CIA's investigations of newsmen to determine their sources of ~~highly~~<sup>g</sup> classified information stemmed from pressures from the White House and were partly a result of the FBI's unwillingness to undertake such investigations. ~~The Bureau~~<sup>The FBI</sup> refused to proceed without an advance opinion that the Justice Department would prosecute if a case were developed.

### Conclusions

Investigations of allegations against Agency employees and operatives are a reasonable exercise of the Director's statutory duty to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure if ~~they~~<sup>the investigations</sup> are lawfully conducted. Such investigations also assist the Director <sup>in the</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>of</sup> exercise his unreviewable authority to terminate the employment of any Agency employee. They are proper unless



their principal purpose becomes law-enforcement or the maintenance of internal security.

The Director's responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods is not so broad as to permit investigations of persons having no relationship whatever with the Agency. The CIA has no authority to investigate newsmen simply because they have published leaked classified information. Investigations by the CIA should be limited to persons presently or formerly affiliated with the Agency, directly or indirectly.

Recommendation (18)

- a. The Director of Central Intelligence should issue clear guidelines setting forth the situations in which the CIA is justified in conducting its own investigation of individuals presently or formerly affiliated with it.
  - b. The guidelines should permit the CIA to conduct investigations of such persons only when the Director of Central Intelligence first determines that the investigation is necessary to protect intelligence sources and methods the disclosure of which might endanger the national security.
  - c. Such investigations must be coordinated with the FBI whenever substantial evidence suggesting espionage or violation of a Federal criminal statute is discovered.
- b. j

Recommendation (19)

a. In cases involving serious or continuing security violations, as determined by the Security Committee of the United States Intelligence Board, the Committee should be authorized to recommend in writing to the Director of Central Intelligence (with a copy to the National Security Council) that the case be referred to the FBI for further investigation, under procedures to be developed by the Attorney General.

b. These procedures should include a requirement that the FBI accept such investigations without regard to whether a favorable prosecutive opinion is issued by the Justice Department. The CIA should not engage in such further investigations.

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b.7

Recommendation (20)

The CIA and other components and agencies of the intelligence community should conduct periodic reviews of all classified material originating within <sup>those</sup> ~~that~~ department<sup>s</sup> or agency<sup>ies</sup>, with a view to declassifying as much of that material as possible. The purpose of such a review would be to assure the public that it has access to all information that should properly be disclosed.

Recommendation (21)

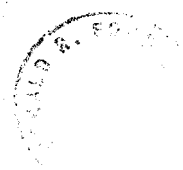
The Commission endorses legislation, drafted with appropriate safeguards of the constitutional rights of all affected individuals,





which would make it a criminal offense for employees or former employees of <sup>the</sup> CIA wilfully to divulge to any unauthorized person classified information pertaining to foreign intelligence or the collection thereof obtained during the course of their employment.

b.3



## 2. Investigative Techniques

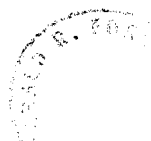
### Findings

Even an investigation within the CIA's authority must be conducted by lawful means. Some of the past investigations by the Office of Security within the United States were conducted by means which were invalid at the time. Others might have been lawful when conducted, but would be impermissible today.

Some investigations involved physical surveillance of the individuals concerned, possibly in conjunction with other methods of investigation. The last instance of physical surveillance by the Agency within the United States occurred in 1973.

The investigation disclosed the domestic use of 32 wiretaps, the last in 1965; 32 instances of bugging, the last in 1968; and 12 break-ins, the last in 1971. None of these activities was conducted under <sup>a judicial</sup> ~~an indirect~~ warrant, and only one with the written approval of the Attorney General.

Information from the income tax records of 16 persons was obtained from the Internal Revenue Service by the CIA in order to help determine whether the taxpayer was a security risk with possible connections to foreign groups. The CIA did not employ the existing statutory and regulatory procedures for obtaining such records from the IRS.



In 91 instances mail covers (the photographing of the front and back of an envelope) were employed and in 12 instances letters were intercepted and opened.

The state of the CIA records on these activities is such that it is often difficult to determine why the investigation occurred in the first place, who authorized the special coverage, and what the results were. Although there was testimony that these activities were frequently known to the Director of Central Intelligence and sometimes to the Attorney General, the files often are insufficient to confirm such information.

Conclusions

The use of physical surveillance is not unlawful unless it reaches the point of harassment. The unauthorized entries described were illegal when conducted and would be illegal if conducted today. Likewise, the review of individual's federal tax returns and the interception and opening of mail violated specific statutes and regulations prohibiting such conduct.

~~As~~ <sup>Since</sup> the constitutional and statutory constraints applicable to the use of electronic eavesdropping (bugs and wiretaps) has been evolving over the years, the Commission deems it impractical to apply those changing standards on a case-by-case basis. The Commission does believe that while some of the



instances of electronic eavesdropping were proper when conducted, many were not. To be lawful today, such activities would require at least the written approval of the Attorney General on the basis of a finding that the national security is involved and that the case has significant foreign connections.

U. S. C.  
RECOMMENDATION (22)

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The CIA should not undertake physical surveillance (defined as systematic observation) of Agency employees, contractors or related personnel within the United States without first obtaining written approval of the Director of Central Intelligence.

U. S. C.  
RECOMMENDATION (23)

In the United States and its possessions, the CIA should not intercept wire or oral communications\* or otherwise engage in activities that would require a warrant if conducted by a law enforcement agency. Responsibility for such activities belongs with the FBI.

U. S. C.  
RECOMMENDATION (24)

The CIA should strictly adhere to established legal procedures governing access to federal income tax information.

\* As defined in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, 18, U.S.C. Sect. ~~87~~ (S.) 2510-20.

End Insert 'A'



C. Handling of Defectors

Findings

The Office of Security is charged with providing security for persons who have defected to the United States. Generally a defector can be processed and placed into society in a few months, but one defector was involuntarily confined at a CIA installation for three years. He was held in solitary confinement under spartan living conditions. The CIA maintained the long confinement because of doubts about the bona fides of the defector. This confinement was approved by the Director of Central Intelligence; and the FBI, Attorney General, United States Intelligence Board and selected members of Congress were aware to some extent of the confinement. In one other case a defector was physically abused; the Director of Central Intelligence discharged the offender.

Conclusions

Such treatment of individuals by an agency of the United States is unlawful. The Director of Central Intelligence and the Inspector General must be alert to prevent repetitions.

Recommendation (25)

CIA investigative records should show that each investigation was duly authorized, and by whom, and should clearly set forth the factual basis for undertaking the investigation and the results of the investigation.

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investigations were directed against newsmen, and nine against other United States citizens.

The CIA's investigations of newsmen to determine their sources of highly classified information stemmed from pressures at the highest levels of government and were partly a result of the FBI's extreme reluctance to engage in such investigations.

The Office of Security conducts doctrine security investigations of persons seeking an application with the Agency. Such investigations seem necessary, and improprieties were found in connection with them. The Bureau refused to proceed without an advance opinion that the Justice Department would prosecute if a case were developed.

The Commission has found no evidence that any such investigations were directed against any public official.

Even an investigation with a proper subject must be conducted by lawful means. Some of the past investigations by the Office of Security within the United States were conducted by means which were invalid at the time; others might have been lawful when conducted, but would be impermissible today in the absence of authority beyond that originally obtained.

Some of these investigations involved physical surveillance of the individuals concerned, possibly in conjunction with other methods of investigation. If the subject was properly under investigation, the fact that physical surveillance was employed did not make the investigation unlawful. The instance of physical surveillance by the Agency within the United States occurred in 1973.

The investigation also disclosed the domestic use of 12 break-ins, the last in 1971; 32 wiretaps, the last in 1965; and 33 instances of bugging, the last bug in 1968. None of these activities was conducted under a warrant, and only one with the written approval of the Attorney General.

Information from the income tax records of 16 persons was obtained from the Internal Revenue Service by the CIA in order to determine whether the taxpayer was a security risk with possible connections to foreign groups. The CIA did not employ the existing statutory and regulatory procedures for obtaining such records from the IRS.

The state of the CIA records on these activities is such that it is often difficult to determine why the investigation occurred in the first place, who authorized the special coverage, and what the results were. Although there was testimony that these activities were frequently known to the Director of Central Intelligence and sometimes to the Attorney General, the files often are insufficient to confirm such information.

The use of physical surveillance is not unlawful unless it reaches the point of harassment. The unauthorized entries described were illegal where conducted and would be illegal if conducted today.



Some of the use of electronic eavesdropping (bugs and wiretaps) was proper when conducted, but many were not. To be lawful today, such activities require at least the written approval of the Attorney General on the basis of a finding that the National Security is involved and that the case has significant foreign connections.

The Director's responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods is not so broad as to permit investigations of persons having no relationship whatever with the Agency. Investigations by the CIA should be limited to persons presently or formerly affiliated with the Agency, directly or indirectly.

The CIA has no authority to investigate newsmen simply because they have published leaked classified information.

The CIA has properly performed the necessary function of screening persons to whom it will make available classified information.

Investigations of allegations against Agency employees and operatives, if lawfully conducted, are a reasonable exercise of the Director's statutory duty to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. Such investigations enable him to exercise wisely his unreviewable authority to terminate the employment of any Agency employee. They are proper unless their principal purpose becomes law-enforcement or the maintenance of internal security.

**Recommendation (16)**

a. Clear guidelines should be issued setting forth the types of investigations involving individuals presently or formerly associated with CIA in which the CIA is justified in conducting its own investigation.

b. The guidelines should permit the CIA to conduct investigations of such persons only when the Director of Central Intelligence first determines that the investigation is necessary to protect intelligence sources and methods the disclosure of which might endanger the national security.

c. Such investigations must be coordinated with the FBI whenever substantial evidence suggesting espionage or violation of a Federal criminal statute is discovered.

**Recommendation (17)**

Prospective employees and foreign nationals acting for the Agency should be more clearly placed on notice that they will be subject to investigation by lawful means for suspected breaches of security.

**Recommendation (18)**

a. In cases involving serious or continuing security violations, as determined by the Security Committee of the United States Intelli-



gence Board, the Committee should be authorized to recommend in writing to the Director of Central Intelligence (with a copy to the National Security Council) that the case be referred to the FBI for further investigation, under procedures to be developed by the Attorney General.

b. These procedures should include a requirement that the FBI be required to accept such investigation without regard to whether a favorable prosecutive opinion is issued by the Justice Department, and the CIA should not engage in such investigations unless otherwise authorized.

**Recommendation (19)**

The Commission endorses legislation, drafted with appropriate safeguards of the constitutional rights of all affected individuals, which would make it a criminal offense for employees or former employees of CIA wilfully to divulge to any unauthorized person classified information pertaining to foreign intelligence obtained during the course of their employment.

**Recommendation (20)**

The CIA should not undertake physical surveillance (defined as systematic observation) of Agency employees, contractors or related personnel within the United States without first obtaining written approval of the Director of Central Intelligence.

**Recommendation (21)**

In the United States and its possessions, the CIA should not intercept wire or oral communications<sup>5</sup> or otherwise engage in activities that would require a warrant if conducted by a law enforcement agency. Responsibility for such activities belong with the FBI.

**6. Involvement of the CIA in Improper Activities for the White House (see Chapter 15)**

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at the request of various members of the White House staff,

**Findings**

During 1971, the CIA provided alias documents and disguise material, a tape recorder, camera, film and film processing to Howard Hunt. It also prepared a psychological profile of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg.

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This assistance was requested by the White House staff and some of it was later used in connection with various improper activities, including the Watergate break-in and the entry into the office of Dr. Lewis Fielding, the psychiatrist of Dr. Daniel Ellsberg.

Ellsberg's

<sup>5</sup> As defined in the Organized Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, 18, U. S. C. sec. 5, 2510-20.

Some of this equipment was later used without the knowledge of the CIA





Some members of the CIA's medical staff who participated in the preparation of the Ellsberg profile knew that one of its purposes was to support a public attack on Ellsberg. Except for this fact, the investigation has disclosed no evidence that the CIA knew or had reason to know that the assistance it gave would be used for improper purposes.

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President Nixon and his staff also insisted in this period that the CIA turn over to the President highly classified files relating to the Labanon Landings, the Bay of Pigs, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War. The request was made ostensibly on the ground that these files were needed by the President in the performance of his duties, but the record shows the purpose, undisclosed to the CIA, to have been to serve personal political ends.

was to serve the President's

The Commission has also investigated the response of the CIA to the investigations following the Watergate arrests. Beginning in June 1972, the CIA received various requests for information and assistance in connection with these investigations. In a number of instances, its responses were either incomplete or delayed and some materials that may or may not have contained relevant information were destroyed. The Commission feels that this conduct reflects poor judgment on the part of the CIA, but it has found no evidence that the CIA participated in the post-Watergate cover-up by the White House.

Watergate break-in or in the

### Conclusions

Providing the assistance requested by the White House, including the alias and disguise materials, the camera and the psychological profile on Ellsberg, was not related to the performance by the Agency of its authorized intelligence functions and was therefore improper.

of carrying out

No evidence has been disclosed, however, except as noted in connection with the Ellsberg profile, that the CIA knew or had reason to know that its assistance would be used in connection with improper activities. Nor has any evidence been disclosed indicating that the CIA participated in the planning of either the Fielding or Watergate break-ins. CIA apparently was unaware of the break-ins until they were reported in the media.

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individuals in

The record does show, however, that the Agency failed to comply with its normal control procedures in providing assistance to Howard Hunt. It also shows that the Agency's failure to cooperate with ongoing investigations following Watergate was inconsistent with its obligations.

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Finally, the Commission concludes that the requests for assistance by the White House reflect a pattern for actual and attempted misuse of the CIA by the Nixon administration.

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reaching them directly,  
and out of regularly established  
channels should be im-  
mediately reported to

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**Recommendation (23)**

a. A single and exclusive high-level channel should be established for transmission of all White House requests to the Agency. This channel should run between an officer of the National Security Council staff designated by the President and the office of the Director or his deputy.

b. All Agency officers and employees should be instructed that any direction or request, ~~the propriety of which is subject to question, be reviewed with the Inspector General or the Director of Central Intelligence.~~

7. Domestic Activities of the Directorate of Operations ~~(see~~  
(Chapter 15)

**Findings and Conclusions**

**A. Overt Collection of Foreign Intelligence Within the United States**

In support of its responsibility for the collection of foreign intelligence and conduct of covert operations overseas, the CIA's Directorate of Operations engages in a variety of activities within the United States.

One division of the Directorate of Operations collects foreign intelligence within the United States from residents, business firms, and other organizations willing to assist the Agency. This activity is conducted openly by officers who identify themselves as CIA employees. Such sources of information are not compensated.

In connection with these collection activities, the CIA maintains approximately 50,000 active files which include details of the CIA's relationships with these voluntary sources and the results of a Federal agency name check.

The division's collection efforts have been almost exclusively confined to foreign, economic, political, military, and operational topics.

Commencing in 1969, however, some activities of the division resulted in the collection of limited information with respect to American dissidents and dissident groups. Although the focus was on foreign contacts of these groups, background information on domestic dissidents was also collected. Between 1969 and 1974, when this ~~case~~ was formally closed, 400 reports were made to Operation CHAOS.

In 1972 and 1973, the division obtained and transmitted, to other parts of the CIA, information about telephone calls between the Western Hemisphere (including the United States) and two other countries. The information was limited to names, telephone numbers

terminated

activity

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and locations of callers and recipients. It did not include the content of the conversations.

This division also occasionally receives reports concerning criminal activity within the United States. Pursuant to written regulations, the source or a report of the information received is referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The CIA's efforts to collect foreign intelligence from residents of the United States willing to assist the CIA are a valid and necessary element of its responsibility. Not only do these persons provide a large reservoir of foreign intelligence; they are by far the most accessible source of such information.

The divisions' efforts, with few exceptions, have been confined to legitimate ~~foreign economic, political, military and operational~~ topics.

The collection of information with respect to American dissident groups exceeded ~~what may be regarded as~~ legitimate foreign intelligence collection and was beyond the proper scope of CIA activity. This impropriety was recognized in some of the division's own memoranda.

The Commission was unable to discover any specific purpose for the collection of telephone toll call information or any use of that information by the Agency. In the absence of a valid purpose, such collection ~~would be~~ improper.

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The division's files on American citizens and firms representing actual or potential sources of information constitute a necessary part of its legitimate intelligence activities. They do not appear to be vehicles for the collection or communication of derogatory, embarrassing, or sensitive information about American citizens.

is

### B. Provision and Control of Cover for CIA Personnel

CIA personnel engaged in clandestine foreign intelligence activities cannot travel, live or perform their duties openly as Agency employees. Accordingly, virtually all CIA personnel serving abroad and many in the United States assume a "cover" as employees of another government agency or of a commercial enterprise. CIA involvement in certain activities, such as research and development projects, are also sometimes conducted under cover.

CIA's cover arrangements are essential to the CIA's performance of its foreign intelligence mission. The investigation has disclosed no instances in which domestic aspects of the CIA's cover arrangements involved any violations of law.

By definition, however, cover necessitates an element of deception which must be practiced ~~against the American public~~ as well as

within the United States



enable the Agency to administer certain sensitive trusts, annuities, escrows, insurance, arrangements, and other benefits and payments provided to officers or contract employees without attribution to CIA.

within

152-35

foreign countries. This creates a risk of conflict with various regulatory statutes and other legal requirements. The Agency recognizes this risk. It has installed controls under which cover arrangements are closely supervised to attempt to ensure compliance with applicable laws.

### C. Operating Proprietary Companies

The CIA uses proprietary companies to provide cover and perform administrative tasks without attribution to the Agency. Most of the large operating proprietaries—primarily airlines—have been liquidated, and the remainder engage in activities offering little or no competition to private enterprise.

The only remaining large proprietary activity is a complex of financial companies, with assets of approximately \$20 million, that provides cover and support to employees and others. The remaining small operating proprietaries, generally having less than ten employees each, make nonattributable purchases of equipment and supplies.

Except as discussed in connection with the Office of Security, (see Chapters 12 and 13),

~~The Office of Security used some employees of one of its proprietaries in connection with its infiltration of dissident groups in the Washington, D.C., area (See Chapter 12). Except for this occasion, the Commission has found no evidence that any proprietaries have been used for operations against American citizens or investigation of their activities. All of them appear to be subject to close supervision and multiple financial controls within the Agency.~~

### D. Development of Contacts With Foreign Nationals

In connection with the CIA's foreign intelligence responsibilities, it seeks to develop contacts with foreign nationals within the United States. American citizens voluntarily assist in developing these contacts. As far as the Commission can find, these activities have not involved coercive methods.

These activities appear to be directed entirely to the production of foreign intelligence and to be within the authority of the CIA. We found no evidence that any of these activities have been directed against American citizens.

### E. Assistance in Narcotics Control

The Directorate of Operations provides foreign intelligence support to the Government's efforts to control the flow of narcotics and other dangerous drugs into this country. The CIA coordinates clandestine



tine intelligence collection overseas and provides other Government agencies with foreign intelligence on drug traffic.

From the beginning of such efforts in 1969, the CIA Director and other officials have instructed employees to make no attempt to gather information on Americans allegedly trafficking in drugs. If such information is obtained incidentally, it is transmitted to law enforcement agencies.

Concerns that the CIA's narcotics-related intelligence activities may involve the Agency in law enforcement or other actions directed against American citizens thus appear unwarranted.

Beginning in the fall of 1973, the Directorate intercepted ~~microwave~~ communications between the United States and Latin America in an effort to identify narcotics traffickers. Three months after the program began, the General Counsel of the CIA was consulted. He issued an opinion that the program was illegal, and it was immediately terminated.

See  
Recommendation 10.)

This interception, although a source of valuable information for enforcement officials, was a violation of a statute of the United States. Continuation of the operation for over 3 months without the knowledge of the Office of the General Counsel demonstrates the need for improved internal consultation.

8. *Domestic Activities of the Directorate of Science and Technology* (see Chapter 16)

**Findings and Conclusions**

The CIA's Directorate of Science and Technology performs a variety of research and development and operational support functions for the Agency's foreign intelligence mission.

Many of these activities are performed in the United States and involve cooperation with private companies. A few of these activities were improper or questionable.

As part of a program to test the influence of drugs on humans, research included the administration of LSD to persons who were unaware that they were being tested. ~~This clearly, was improper.~~ One person died in 1953, apparently as a result. In 1963, following the Inspector General's discovery of these events, new stringent criteria were issued prohibiting drug testing by the CIA on unknowing persons. All drug testing programs were ended in 1967.

In the process of testing communications intercept equipment for use overseas, the CIA has overheard communications between Americans. The names of the speakers were not identified; the contents of

*This was clearly illegal.*



outside this requirement. Many of the tests

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the communications were not disseminated. All recordings were destroyed when testing was concluded.

Such testing should not be directed against unsuspecting persons in the United States except in those cases where no other means of testing is feasible. Some of the tests performed by the CIA in the past would fall within this exception. Others could easily have been performed using only Agency personnel and with the full knowledge of those whose communications were being intercepted. This appears to

is

be the present Agency practice. Other activities of this Directorate include the manufacture of a wide range of alias credentials for use by CIA employees and agents. Some are documents ordinarily issued by other parts of the Government, or by private businesses.

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Credentials are

Alias documentation is undoubtedly necessary to facilitate CIA clandestine operations. The strictest controls and accountability must be maintained over the use of such documents. Recent guidelines established by the Deputy Director for Operations to control the use of alias documentation appear adequate to prevent abuse in the future.

but the

its part of another program

As a result of a different activity, photographs taken by CIA overhead surveillance equipment are provided to civilian agencies of the Government. Such photographs are used to assess natural disasters, conduct route surveys and forecast inventories, and detect crop blight.

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Permitting civilian use of overhead photography systems seems proper. The economy of operating but one overhead photography program dictates the use of these photographs for appropriate civilian purposes. The Commission suggests, however, that a civilian agency committee be reestablished to oversee the civilian uses of overhead intelligence photography in order to avoid any concerns over the improper domestic use of a CIA-developed system.

In accordance with its present guidelines, the Agency should not again engage in

Recommendation (25) 27

Guidelines promulgated by the Agency prohibit the testing of drugs on unsuspecting U.S. citizens in the future. Strict compliance with those guidelines is essential to protect persons who voluntarily agree to cooperate in any future tests.

persons.

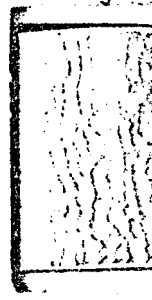
Recommendation (26) 28

a. Testing of communication intercept systems should not be directed against unsuspecting persons living within the United States, where that is technologically possible.

involve

b. In situations where testing on unsuspecting U.S. citizens is the only technically feasible means of testing a communication intercept system, any effort to identify the speaker of any intercepted conver-

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Recommendation

(29)  
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A civilian agency committee should be reestablished to oversee the civilian uses of overhead intelligence photography in order to avoid any concerns over the improper domestic use of a CIA-developed system.

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~~sations must be avoided, and recordings or transcripts of all intercepted conversations must be destroyed as soon as the testing is completed.~~

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9. CIA Relationships With Other Federal, State, and Local Agencies (~~see~~ Chapter 17)

CIA operations touch the interest of many other agencies. The CIA, like other agencies of the government, frequently has occasion to give or receive assistance from other agencies. This investigation has concentrated on those relationships which raise substantial questions under the CIA's legislative mandate.

Findings and Conclusions

A. Federal Bureau of Investigation

occasionally cross

The FBI counterintelligence operations often have positive intelligence ramifications. Likewise, legitimate domestic CIA activities have the potential for crossing the path of FBI investigations. Daily liaison is therefore necessary between the two agencies.

Much routine information is passed back and forth. Occasionally joint operations are conducted. The relationship between the agencies has, however, not been uniformly satisfactory over the years. Formal liaison was cut off from February 1970 to November 1972, but relationships have improved in recent years.

Creating conflicts or gaps in jurisdiction

The relationship between the CIA and the FBI should nevertheless be clarified and outlined in detail in order to ensure that the needs of national security are met without intrusion, by either on the legitimate domain of the other.

Access to

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Findings and Conclusions  
B. Narcotics Law Enforcement Agencies

Beginning in late 1970, the CIA assisted the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD) to ~~prevent~~ corruption within that organization. The CIA used one of its proprietary companies to recruit for BNDD and gave the recruits short instructional courses. Over two and one-half years, the CIA recruited 19 agents for the BNDD. The project was terminated in 1973.

agents

them

The Director was correct in his written directive terminating the project. The CIA's participation in law enforcement activities in the course of these activities was forbidden by its charter. The Director and the Inspector General should be alert to prevent involvement of the Agency in similar enterprises in the future.

statute

uncover possible





### C. The Department of State

For more than 20 years, the CIA through a proprietary conducted a training school for foreign police and security officers in the United States under the auspices of the Agency for International Development of the Department of State. The proprietary also sold small amounts of licensed firearms and police equipment to the foreign officers and their departments.

The CIA's activities in providing educational programs for foreign police were not improper under the Agency's ~~charter~~. Although the school was conducted within the United States through a CIA proprietary, it had no other significant domestic impact.

statute

Engaged in the firearms business

~~The CIA's involvement in the sale of firearms and police equipment to foreign police officers and police departments through a proprietary corporation was a questionable activity for a government intelligence agency, whether or not a charter violation was involved. It should not be repeated.~~

o/s

### D. Funding Requests From Other Federal Agencies

In the spring of 1970, at the request of the White House, the CIA contributed \$33,655.68 for payment of stationery and other costs for replies sent to persons who wrote the President after the invasion of Cambodia.

This use of CIA funds for a purpose unrelated to intelligence is improper. Steps should be taken to ensure against any repetition of such an incident.

### E. State and Local Police

The CIA handles a variety of routine security matters through liaison with local police departments. In addition, it offered training courses from 1966 to 1973 to United States police officers on a variety of law enforcement techniques, and has frequently supplied equipment to state and local police.

In general, the coordination and cooperation between state and local law enforcement agencies and the CIA has been exemplary, based upon a desire to facilitate their respective legitimate aims and goals.

Most of the assistance rendered to state and local law enforcement agencies by the CIA has been no more than an effort to share with law enforcement authorities the benefits of new methods, techniques, and equipment developed or used by the Agency.

On a few occasions, however, the Agency has improperly become involved in actual police operations. Thus, despite a general rule



the FBI with information on new technical developments which may be useful to local law enforcement.

40  
157

Recent

against providing manpower to local police forces, the CIA has lent men, along with radio-equipped vehicles, to the Washington Metropolitan Police Department to help monitor antiwar demonstrations. It helped the same Department surveil a police informer. It also provided an interpreter to the Fairfax County (Virginia) Police Department to aid in a criminal investigation.

by the FBI.

In compliance with the spirit of a new Act of Congress, the CIA terminated all but routine assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies in 1973. In view of these recent statutory changes, assistance is now being provided through the FBI to the state and local agencies. There is no impropriety in the CIA's furnishing such information to the FBI to be used in the training of local law enforcement.

Such

For several years the CIA has given gratuities to local police officers who had been helpful to the Agency. This practice should be terminated if it still continues.

Any sideh

The CIA has also received assistance from local police forces. Three Fairfax Virginia, officers once actively participated in a CIA investigation including an unauthorized entry. The CIA has occasionally obtained police badges and other identification to use as cover for its agents.

The assistance received by the CIA from state and local law enforcement authorities did not involve the agency in any impropriety.

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**Recommendation (30)**  
The Director of Central Intelligence and the Director of the FBI should prepare and submit for approval by the National Security Council a detailed agreement setting forth the jurisdiction of each agency and providing for effective liaison with respect to all matters of mutual concern. This agreement should be consistent with the provisions of law and with other applicable recommendations of this report.

10. Information on American Citizens (see Chapter 18)

**Findings**

Indices and files

Biographical information is a major resource of an intelligence agency. The CIA maintains a number of files and indices that include biographical information on Americans.

As a part of its normal process of indexing names and information of foreign intelligence interest, the Operations Directorate has indexed some 7,000,000 names of all nationalities. An estimated 115,000 of these are believed to be American citizens.

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The CIA has also received assistance from local police forces. Aside from routine matters, officers from such forces have occasionally assisted the Office of Security in the conduct of investigations. The CIA has occasionally obtained police badges and other identification for use as cover for its agents.

Such

Except for one occasion when some local police assisted the CIA in an unauthorized entry, the assistance received by the CIA from state and local law enforcement authorities was proper. The use of police identification as a means of providing cover, while not strictly speaking ~~and~~ a violation of the Agency's statutory authority as long as no police function is performed, is a practice subject to misunderstanding and should be avoided.

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in indices and files

Where a person was believed to be of possibly continuing intelligence interest, files to collect information as received were opened. An estimated 57,000 out of a total of 750,000 such files concern American citizens.

not

of Operations

For the most part, the names of Americans appear as actual or potential sources of information or assistance to the CIA. In addition to these files, files on some 7,200 American citizens, relating primarily to their domestic activities, were, as already stated, compiled within the Operations Directorate as part of Operation CHAOS. The Agency plans to destroy these files after completion of the current investigations.

The Administrative Directorate maintains a number of files on persons who have been associated with the CIA. These files are maintained for security, personnel, training, medical and payroll purposes. Very few are maintained on persons unaware that they have a relationship with the CIA. However, the Office of Security maintained files on American citizens associated with dissident groups who were never affiliated with the Agency because they were considered a threat to the physical security of Agency facilities and employees. These files were also maintained, in part, for use in future security clearance determinations. Dissemination of security files is restricted to persons with an operational need for them.

of Administration

The Office of Legislative Counsel maintains files on Congressmen typical of those maintained by any Government agency having relations with Congress.

concerning its relationships with congressmen

### Conclusions

~~With the exception of the files related to Operation CHAOS and the activities of the Office of Security concerning dissident groups, most of the indices, files and records maintained by the Agency are necessary and proper.~~

~~The currently existing criteria on indices and files appear to provide a satisfactory balance between the privacy of individual citizens and intelligence requirements.~~

~~Constant vigilance by the Agency will be essential to prevent the collection of private or derogatory information not needed for proper intelligence activities.~~

### II. Allegations Concerning the Assassination of President Kennedy (see Chapter 19)

Numerous allegations have been made that the CIA participated in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Commission staff investigated these allegations. On the basis of the staff's investigation, the Commission concluded there was no credible evidence of any CIA involvement.

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Although maintenance of most of the indices, files, and records of the Agency has been necessary and proper, the standards applied by the Agency at some points during its history have permitted the accumulation and indexing of materials not needed for legitimate intelligence or security purposes. Included in this category are many of the files related to Operation CHAOS and the activities of the Office of Security concerning dissident groups.

Constant vigilance by the Agency is essential to prevent the collection of information on United States citizens which is not needed for proper intelligence activities. The Executive Order recommended by the Commission (Recommendation 2) will ensure purging of nonessential or improper materials from Agency files.