

Feb. 21 - 1967

CIA Complex

Guidance Only

Return to Marder

Marder lunch with State official, Asst. Sec'y level:

Ruminations:

Church-State area of CIA relationships, which even few insiders know about, could be extremely explosive if they blow, but ~~xxxx~~ so far they haven't, although German and Italian press are starting to sniff at the edges of ~~o~~ this. This is the area of covert support to Christian Democratic parties and the like. My source wouldn't go into this very far except to say that Bobby Kennedy (who moved in to sit on inter-agency CIA coordinating group) and Ralph Dungan particularly were pushing this kind of covert aid.

The question of supplying funds is by no means the sole interest of CIA. What CIA was getting out of the operation was critical entree into top layers of national life which are vital to its version of its ~~xxxx~~ operations. The difference between intelligence operations in Britain and France, for example, and CIA, is that in those countries, people are ~~xxx~~ recruited for intelligence careers. In the U.S., CIA can attract the cream of intellectuals, such as half the graduating class of Princeton (???) on basis that they will only be working on the intelligence analysis side of CIA and can go on from there into State, into White House, into ~~xxxx~~ anything else, public or private, with no lasting cloak and dagger taint on them.

Bobby Kennedy is right in saying responsibility ~~is~~ was across top of government, and not just ~~o~~ CIA concoction. But he is wrong in saying State had the problem, came to CIA, and CIA simply provided the funding. It was CIA, my source insists, that did the motivating as well as the operation, because it saw the opportunity cited above; CIA's attitude ~~xxxxx~~ virtually amounts to concept that "everybody should have a ~~xxxxx~~ couple of years of CIA experience under his belt."

McGeorge Bundy is left in an especially ironic position; he was chairman of inter-agency committee on CIA work, and now head of the biggest foundation. ~~xxx~~ But at least, when Bundy and Tommy Thompson were here, they were the two people who at least would make, from time to time, the issue of propriety about a particular operation, even though it usually was glossed over in the end. Alex Johnson always went along with whatever CIA wanted. Now, with Rostow at the White House, and Foy Kohler at State, nobody is likely to question anything.

Another paradox is to see Mendel Rivers assuming, however, that CIA worked only the right-wing side of the street. The fact is that much CIA money went to further causes questioning, as CIA covertly did, U.S. operations in Dominican Republic and in Vietnam.

My source's great concern is the consequences now created for liberal, anti-Communist left, especially in Latin America, Asia, Europe. It is now put in ~~xxx~~ politically-damaging position by taint of CIA funds.



National Security Archive,
Suite 701, Gelman Library, The George Washington University,
2130 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20037,
Phone: 202/994-7000, Fax: 202/994-7005, nsarchiv@gwu.edu