



Rockefeller's appointment

greeted with skepticism

By Liberation News Service

"I accept this assignment from the President with a deep sense of responsibility as to the need for public confidence in our governmental institutions, the vital necessity of preserving our national security and the basic concepts of freedom and human dignity."

-Nelson A. Rockefeller,

commenting on his new duties as head of a presidential committee investigating CIA domestic spying.

Presidential blue ribbon committees, set up to investigate any given political thorn from racial and student unrest to marijuana and pornography, have done little to inspire public confidence. United States President Gerald

Ford's January 5 announcement of an eight-member committee to investigate the charges of Central Intelligence Agency involvement in domestic intelligence was met with skepticism.

The first indication of a fox in the chicken coop was the revelation that newly confirmed Vice-president Nelson A. Rockefeller would head the committee. Virtually every other member of the group from ex-secretary of the

treasury, C. Douglas Dillon, to AFL-CIO secretary Joseph Land Dirkland, has had some recognizable contact with the U.S. intelligence community.

Despite this, the White House has persistently defended the committee. "All of the people have been checked," said White House press secretary Ron Nessen. "They would not have been picked if they had any connection with the CIA which would hamper them."

As for Rockefeller's nomination to head the panel, Nessen said he was chosen because he is Ford's "highest and closest advisor in the government" and Rockefeller "has some knowledge of how the CIA operates which would be helpful."

Two Congressional committees however, indicated they will investigate the CIA's activities regardless of the President's committee.

The flurry of investigations were spawned by reports in the New York Times in late December the CIA conducted massive, illegal spying operations against antiwar and other radicals in the late sixties and early seventies when Richard Helms was CIA director. Victor Marchetti and John Marks, in their controversial book "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," reported certain domestic operations have always been a part of the CIA's work.

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Ford were reported to have spent much time discussing what to do about the charges against the CIA. According to the January 6 New York Times, Kissinger, a long-time Rockefeller associate and intimately connected with CIA activities, pushed for a civilian review board to deal with the disclosures. Another participant in these talks was former CIA director Richard Helms, now ambassador to Iran.

Helms, in previous sworn statements to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, denied the CIA was involved in domestic surveillance and counter-intelligence activities during the Nixon administration.

Following is a brief survey of the committee members who are due to investigate Helms, current CIA director William Colby, Kissinger

and others.

NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER was presidential operations as special President Eisenhower "Rocky" set up seminars at the School in Quantico devise cold war strategy. One of the "open skies" prop unarmed Soviet a planes to fly over territory to check preparations and d He has been a m President's Foreign Advisory Board (PFIAB) was appointed in 1968 president Richard PFIAB, explained Marks, "is a group who meet several t evaluate the acti intelligence comm make recommenda ed change.

"The majority of have always been close ties to the defense contractor consistently pushe (and more exper ge nce collection sy One "highly re alumnus, quoted in ton Post, said of Intelligence Adv "these guys are a exception more ha guys in the agenc; these guys is, 'If th wrong, blow 'em u In February 1974 members include Baker, Bell Telep tories vice-presid search; John Con governor of Texas of the Navy and Cherne, Executive Research Institute Dr. John Foster, fo of Defense Depart and Engineering; President of Mot Gray, former As President for Nat Affairs; Dr. Edwi dent of Polaroid; Luce, former C and ambassado Edward Teller, nu and "father" of bomb.)

If being a membe were not enough t Rockefeller's ob clincher is his clo going back man Henry Kissinger. "Every major C covert action," w and Marks, "incl



C. Douglas Dillon
Ex-Treasury Secretary; now chairman of banking house.



Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer
Was Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff; NATO commander.



Edgar F. Shannon Jr.
Served 15 years as president of the University of Virginia.



Erwin N. Griswold
Was Solicitor General; now in private practice.



Lane Kirkland
Secretary Treasurer of the A.F.L.-C.I.O.



Ronald Reagan
Retiring Governor of California



John T. Connor
Was Commerce Secretary; now chairman of Allied Chemical.

