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Weekly Says France Tapped Line for CIA

Manchester Guardian

PARIS, July 9—The French secret police were accused yesterday of tapping a telephone at the satirical weekly "Le Canard Enchaine" and passing the information they obtained to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

The Canard was to publish Thursday a photostatic copy of a cable allegedly sent by CIA officers in Paris to Washington in October giving details of a telephone conversation between a Washington journalist and the paper's political editors, Claude Angeli, in Paris.

The cable allegedly gave the CIA's Washington office advance notice of a Canard article that named the new CIA representative in Paris, Eugene F. Burgstaller.

Nina Sutton, who made the call from Washington to the Canard, said: "There's no question that the information could only have been transmitted to the CIA after the Canard's telephone had been tapped. . . . The CIA cable contained information I passed on from Washington which was not published in the article."

Journalists at the Canard claim Washington was informed before the article was even written.

The accusation is sure to embarrass the French government, still squirming from a bungled attempt by France's internal secret service to install microphones in the Canard office 18 months ago. It was partly because of that scandal that President Valery Giscard d'Estaing ordered an end to such activity.

The CIA's Mission

Brig. Gen. Tidwell's eloquent defense of the CIA (Letter, July 2) reminds me once again that a silk purse from a sow's ear cannot be made. General Tidwell describes the CIA as a group of intellectuals valiantly striving to perform "the mission of understanding the human world outside the U.S. and the uses that the human world makes of physical universe around us."

To my eyes the CIA has apparently pursued its mission in the best tradition of Karl Marx and with the supreme organizational tactics of V. I. Lenin by demonstrating over and over and over its true guiding principle is the end it seeks justifies the means it uses.

In the tradition of Darwin the CIA has apparently tried to support its therories with selected facts, ignoring whatever is contrary to the theories.

The CIA concept of intelligence has taught Americans to live in fear and to think from a premise of fear: what a dastardly way to celebrate our Bicentennial!

Sue Clegg.

Washington.

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