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Bush Defends CIA At Miss Porter's School Graduation

By MIKE KANE

FARMINGTON — Amid tumultuous applause, their classmates' whoops and cheers and George Bush's strong words about the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), 89 girls from Miss Porter's School graduated Monday noon.

Bush, whose daughter Dorothy was among the 89 graduates, told the girls "Don't be afraid to leave."

However, his strongest words were for the press, whom he accused of wanting to "tear down" institutions to expose the "grubby details."

The former CIA director said that agency has been the victimized and weakend by the tear down tactic. "The propensity to tear down has resulted in a bad thing," Bush stated. It has kept people from public service, he added.

He traced what he called the new approach to journalism to the Watergate scandals. "The finality of the lie of Watergate gave carte blanche to the thesis that all government is corrupt."

He said the CIA was retrospectively judged, causing new values to be used rather than ones in force when incidents like the Bay of Pigs invasion occurred.

The only thing people then thought was wrong, he said, was "they (CIA) failed."

Today's culture, the former liason officer to the People's Republic of China stated, demanded "We must have intelligence in the sunshine." This he equated with "tear down the institution."

Questioned after the 50 minute ceremony in Farmington's First Congregational Church, Bush continued in the same line, saying "You cannot direct intelligence business in the sunshine."

He said oversight of the intelligence agency already exists, as he reported to seven different Congressional committees during his tenure at the CIA.

He stated that, as a private citizen, he would continue to speak out for the reality as opposed to the myth" of the CIA.

While the main portion of the speech was stern, the introduction was a series of jokes that seemed to fit the mood of the event.

Despite an occasional graduate's tear, most of the girls smiled throughout.

Tumultuous applause greeted Bush's speech, introductory remarks by Martha Lance, one of the graduates, and the issuance of the graduation certificates.

Students and parents jammed the old church, with some of the girls sitting on door lintels in the balcony, attempting to see all the festivities.

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