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YOUNG-CIA (270)

WASHINGTON, OCT. 21 (AP)-SEN. STEPHEN M. YOUNG SAYS HE HAS LEARNED THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HIRED SOUTH VIETNAMESE TO DRESS AS VIET CONG AND KILL MEN AND RAPE WOMEN WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF DISCREDITING THE COMMUNISTS. A CIA SPOKESMAN CALLS THE CHARGE "ABSOLUTELY FALSE."

AND REP. CORNELIUS E. GALLAGHER, D-N.J., SAID OF THE OHIO DEMOCRAT'S ALLEGATION YESTERDAY: "IT MAY WELL BE THAT HE SPOKE TO A VIET CONG DISGUISED AS A CIA MAN."

BOTH YOUNG AND GALLAGHER WERE IN SOUTH VIET NAM SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND WERE BRIEFED THERE BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

YOUNG FIRST TOLD NEWSMEN YESTERDAY THAT HE GOT HIS INFORMATION FROM A CIA MAN. LAST NIGHT, HE DENIED HE HAD SAID A CIA MAN WAS HIS SOURCE AND SAID HE GOT HIS INFORMATION FROM AN AMERICAN MILITARY OFFICER. HE DID NOT NAME THE MAN.

NEVERTHELESS, YOUNG SAID, "I CONFIRMED THROUGH THE CIA TODAY THAT IT EMPLOYED SOME SOUTH VIETNAMESE NATIONALS TO POSE AS VIET CONG--AND I TAKE A DIM VIEW OF THAT."

GALLAGHER SAID YOUNG'S STATEMENT "IS APPALLING, AND IT REFLECTS A CARELESSNESS WITH FACTS."

"IT IS OBVIOUS," GALLAGHER SAID IN A STATEMENT, "THAT HE MISUNDERSTOOD THE ESSENCE OF THE BRIEFING OR FAILED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TERMS OF IDENTIFICATION OF THE OPPOSING FORCES IN VIET NAM. . . NO ONE COULD POSSIBLY CONCEIVE SUCH AN EXERCISE AS SEN. YOUNG DESCRIBES."

YOUNG, A MEMBER OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, SAID HE WILL ASK THE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE CIA ACTIVITIES.

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