

MADISON, WISCONSIN
CAPITAL TIMES

E. 45,734

MAY 30 1965

The CIA and FBI Perform

Ohio's maverick Sen. Steve Young is reportedly writing an article about the CIA for Playboy magazine. And, the story goes, he was uncertain whether the spy agency's headquarters lay in McLean or Langley, Va. So he telephoned the CIA.

The official address, he was told, was McLean but part of the establishment spilled over into Langley. Good enough.

However, on the following day a CIA agent called at the senator's office to ask why Young was being so inquisitive.

Young jotted down the visitation as another bit of proof for his thesis that the CIA is vastly overstaffed.

The drollness of this anecdote takes on a grayer color, though, when one considers the observation of a Wisconsin congressional aide that his office has found it to be standard practice for an agent to call whenever a query is forwarded to the CIA or FBI.

"They don't want to put anything in writing."

He described the following sequence:

A constituent wrote questioning the propriety of certain FBI loyalty check procedures. The congressman sent the letter on to the FBI.

The FBI wrote that it would not discuss confidential matters. This reply was sent to the constituent.

The constituent responded with a heated and detailed denunciation of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI, and demanded that his remarks be transmitted to those parties. The congressman did so.

In short order an FBI agent appeared at the congressman's office. He said Director Hoover was not about to engage in a debate with said constituent over the operations of the bureau. However, did the congressman know—And the agent went on to detail incidents where the constituent had been involved in controversies in his home community.

"Well," the congressman observed, "I didn't think the letter was worth a field investigation of the guy."

"We thought it might be helpful to you," the G-man replied.