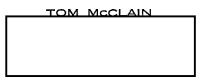


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February 25, 1976

march

Lieutenant General Vernon Walters Deputy Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C.

Dear General Walters:

Please forgive my delay in formally letting you know how much your visit to Houston was appreciated. Although my flashfires are not as global and significant as yours, they required my attention nonetheless.

I am one man who sincerely thanks you on behalf on our group. Never before has a speaker generated so much interest, radiated so much confidence and, unfortunately, been so castigated by press coverage.

The enclosed article appeared in one of our local papers. I trust you believe me when I tell you extreme dissatisfaction was expressed by me to both newspapers for the manner in which your speech was reported. Herewith too, I hope you will let me know if you are to speak in Houston again. I promise I will personally do what I can to see that you receive accurate coverage.

Again, thanking you very much, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Tom McClain

TM:kme

Encl.

MORI/CDF Pages 1-4, 34, 36-38

#### Houston Chronicle

6 January 1976

# Probe Could Damage CIA, Agency Official Says Here

The deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said here today that recent congressional investiga-

tions of the agency were "like rummaging through the garbage of history" and have the potential of damaging the nation's intelligence operations.

The deputy director, Vernon A. Walters, however, said the CIA "will live with" the investigations because the United



WALTERS

States requires that its intelligence arm be responsible to elected representatives.

Walters said congressional investigators are charging us "with things that happened in the 1950s and 1960s."

Walters spoke at a meeting of the Executive Breakfast Club, a group of young businessmen, at Stouffers Hotel.
Walters refused to answer questions

from reporters. He conceded that the CIA had been involved in the planning of assassinations and experiments with drugs and poison-

ous toxins. He noted, however, that the investigations showed no evidence that any

planned assassinations were carried out.
There have been "some kooks and nuts" in the CIA and overzeal and misjudgments by agents of the CIA since the agency was organized 27 years ago,

Walters said.
"But they've been very few and far between," he said.





#### 14 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Contacts with the Press

Listed below is a summary of contacts with the press reported by Agency personnel for  $13\ \mathrm{January}$ .

| Media Representative                         | Agency Contact   | Remarks   |
|--|--|---|
| Jim Walls<br>Fairfax Globe                   |  | Asked how to get documents re CIA training of police. Advised him.  |
| Claude Mathieu<br><i>Liberation</i><br>Paris | Mr. Thuermer   | Re our statement on Liberation.   |
| Jim Wieghart<br>NY Daily News                | Mr. Thuermer   | DCI will accept invite to Gridiron Club.  |
| David Martin<br>AP                           | Mr. Thuermer   | Re Stern story; we said<br>we in compliance with<br>Katzenbach rules.   |
| Jim Hogan<br>Harper's                        | Mr. Thuermer   | Asked for info on documents from CIA. Will write IPS.   |
| Dick Valeriani<br>NBC                        | OA/DCI   | His office said he unable STAT to make briefing.  |
| Oswald Johnston  Los Angeles Times           | STAT   | Wants chronology of briefings Agency has given to committees re Don'tSTAT think it can be done but we'll try. |
| Tom Tiede<br>Scripps-Howard                  |  |   |
| Si Lieberman<br>Asbury Park (N.J.)<br>Press  | The state of the s | We're ready to accept reader questions for DCI for paper's "press conference" column.                         |

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| Peter Hackis<br>NBC              | Mr. Thuermer  | Read statement on Paris disclosures.  |
| Walter Pincus<br>Washington Post | Mr. Thuermer  | Re news organizations asking us not to use their men.   |
| George Gedda<br>AP               | Mr. Thuermer  | Wants rundown on activity.  |
| Sol Sanders<br>RIA               | Mr. Thuermer  | Will lunch on Friday.   |
| Ed Offley<br>Virginia Gazette    | Mr. Thuermer  | Why things excised from Star FOIA release. Said in conformation with law.   |
| Joe Volz<br>NY Daily News        |   | Asked for police assistance docs. Will let him know when we have copy.  |
| Sylvia Cordy<br>"AM Washington"  | Mr. Thuermer  | STAT  |
| Paul Duke<br>NPACT               | Mr. Thuermer  | Asked DCI to background lunch Monday next.  |
| Richard Homan Washington Post    |   | Says Los Angeles Times story saying Agee responsible for arrest of Polish people last year who worked for U.S. and French services will be in paper tomorrow. Asks comment. |
| Larry Stern Washington Post      |   | Re "what would be the right thing to do in intel reorganization".   |
| Sam Jameson Los Angeles Times    | OCI<br>OER  | Briefed on Japan.  STAT   |
| Nick Horrock                     | OBK   | On background re  |
| New York Times                   | s   | TAT STAT  |
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Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director
Approved For Release 2007/02/16: CIA-RDP80R01731R002100020037-1

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E. K. GAYLORD 1873—1974

Published Every Morning by The Oklahoma Publishing Co., 500 N. Broadway Post Office Box 25125. Oklahoma City 73125 Telephone (405) 232-3311

Edward L. Gaylord, President and Publisher

Howard Nicks Charles L. Bennett Helge Holm Edith Gaylord Harper Vice-President and General Manager Executive Editor Circulation Director Secretary

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Wednesday, January 7, 1976

### The Self-Destruct Scheme

FICTIONAL spies and sleuths abound in the world of television and paperback books, each with his own distinctive device that sets him apart from ordinary men and women as an evil genius. But there is almost no common ground between these supersleuths and the intelligence workers of the real world.

The impressive fact about our intelligence agencies is not that they invent and use diabolical devices, which they do not, but that they utilize the most modern technology and many long years of specialized study to produce analyses of events and capabilities on which nations base their policies. Of the two, while technology is important, the long years of study are the major factors in the excellence of American intelligence work.

Those were some of the facts behind the presentation Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters made to the Oklahoma City Rotary Club Tuesday, in which he took the recent attacks on the Central Intelligence Agency, one by one, and answered each by putting the criticism alongside the facts.

Walters cited the charges stemming from revelations that some 15 years ago some CIA personnel seriously contemplated attempting the assassination of Fidel Castro. He reminded his audience that at the time Castro was shooting thousands of Cubans in the stadium, on live television, every day or so, and that many Americans found this a disturbing thing to have on our doorstep. But he made the telling point

that consideration did not result in action—no one was assassinated.

The infamous toxins, which the CIA itself recently revealed to Congress, were developed when the agency wanted to learn how the Russians were killing emigres who became bones in the Communist throat—that was more than 20 years ago now—and developed the reported poisons to test their effectiveness, and to learn if there was a way to protect our own people from them.

The drugs which the CIA tested were a part of a broad national effort to learn more about such mindbending agents, when they were new to Americans, including the medical professions. That came in the wake of the Korean War experience, and the degradations of such courageous men as Cardinal Mindszenty.

These efforts to learn more about our avowed adversaries in the world and their person-to-person weapons of war are being used today to pillory the entire intelligence establishment. Yet they occurred almost a generation ago, before the present CIA leadership was even involved at the agency.

In keeping up a drumroll of such criticism, which paints the CIA as a nest of terrifying threats to our freedom, some of its critics seem to hope it will become one of those TV "self-destruct" mechanisms, and disappear. But the CIA's service is so vital that if it did not exist today, we would have to invent it. Its mission, after all, is to ensure that there will be a United States in the future.

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Vernon A. Walters

Nopo The

## Official Defends CIA

## Angolan Recruiting Denied

By DON SHOCKEY
Of The Journal Staff
The deputy director of the Central Intelligence
Agency Tuesday denied direct recruiting of
American mercenaries to fight in Angola.
But Lt. Gen. Vermon A. Walters skirted questions
on indirect CIA assistance in hiring paid soldiers
for the African civil war.
There had been unconfirmed as the staff of the s

There had been unconfirmed reports of indirect CIA assistance for the U.S.-supported faction in the bloody fighting.

bloody tighting.

After speaking to an overflow crowd at the Downtown Rotary Club, Walters flatly ruled out any direct CIA hiring of mercenaries.

Walters also said the CIA has been subjected to a

"harrage of slander and innuendo unprecedented in the nation's history."

He blamed some controversial CIA actions, recently brought to light, on a handful of "kooks and over-zealous."

The 35-year-military veteran said he resented the attempt to portray the actions of a few "as typical of the entire organization."

Wafters also answered for about 400 Rotarians and ghests charges of CIA assassination attempts, massive wiretaps and use of "mind-bending drugs" and deadly toxins

"The investigations found that he research in the control of the

"The investigations found that no one had been assassinated," he said.
"In the past 27 years there have been 32 CIA

wiretaps, an average of 1½ taps a year," he said. Walters, who has served for 3½ years as deputy director, termed the death attributed to a CIA experiment with hallucinogen drugs as "unfortunate," "Many distinguished colleges and universities at that time were also conducting research into mind bending drugs." he said.

The blunt-spoken deputy director said the CIA hecame concerned about possible uses of drugs on Americans by the Soviet Chion and wanted to learn more about the drugs. Waiters went on to explain that research with deadly shellfish toxins was conducted for similar reasons, then shelved "We're the ones who see CIA on Page 2.



That Tells Both Sides

Vol. 12 No. 146

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73110

Wednesday, January 7, 1976

10 on Newsstand

Approved For Release 2007/02/16: CIA-RDP80R01731R002100020037-1

THE OKLAHOMA JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, JANU

Continued From Page 1

reported into Congress," he noted.

Walters, who added little to official statements by CIA and White House officials, said to welcomed the opportunity to tell the CIA's side of the story.

But, when you have 76,000 individuals pass through the agency, like we've had in the last 20 years, you're bound to get some who use poor judgment, are over-zealous and make mistakes," he

We have had our share of kooks and all sorts.

"You can minimize abuses but you can't legislate them out of existence.

"I repeat: nobody's been assassinated . . . none of the toxins have ever been used.

Walters noted that the controversial actions were those 15 to 20 years old. He said former President ennedy warned the agency that it would be sub-

jected to "those who rummage in the garbage pails of history.

However, Walters said the disclosures have had little effect on the agency

"I wish I could say yes, they've been catastrophic and must stop, but I can't," he said. He called CIA employes a "tough bunch of people who can stand the heat.

'The main thrust of the agency goes on."

The CIA's fate is to be "publicly pilloried for its failures but with successes passed over," said the presidential appointee.

However, Walters did say covert activities take up a far smaller share of the agency's budget than 15 years ago.

He cited declining involvement in Laos and Vietnam for the drop in clandestine work.

"We don't have CIA agency personnel in

Angola," he said. "There are 5,000 to 7,000 Cubans there, though.

Walters reported earlier that his visit to Oklahoma City wasn't part of a CIA attempt at "public relations.

We have no PR group but do accept speaking engagements when we can and are asked," he said.

Walters noted that the CIA makes reports to about 100 congressmen from whom "we have no secrets. I repeat: from whom we have no secrets.

He said the CIA must follow governmental rules and regulations like any other agency and follow the direction of the Office of Management and Budget.

"We're not a policy-making body but an information service."

Walters said he hopes the agency can provide the nation with the information it needs to survive "There are no second prizes," he said.

### Schools

Continued From Page 1 spent for recurring expenses like education.

Boren repeatedly told the legislature and a statewide television audience Tuesday afternoon the state cannot afford to spend the \$80 million for operating expenses.

Using key words like "fiscal responsibility" and "firmincial sanity," the governor said if the State Supreme Court rules against him in the challenge of his setting aside the surplus funds for bond repayment, the legislature should invest those funds in non-recurring expenses.

#### Jeannex

Continued From Page 1

variance, Crockett said.

Then the case must come back to the planning commission for deed approval, he said.

McEwen furned that the long process is costing Mrs. Largent hundreds of dollars in application fees and holding up sale of the land. She originally began attempts to gain approval of the sale in August, McEwen said.

Crocxett agreed the process is long and complicated, and coid

#### Ford's Fortune Encouraging

WASHINGTON (UPI) -President Ford got a good political omen from a fortune cookie Monday.

At an American Farm Bureau Federation luncheon in St. Louis, Ford opened his fortune cookie to find a message:

Continued From Page price increases during a of short supplies and ra rising prices. In addition said, it simplified audit p lures for refiners.

"However," Zarb said atement, "the rule i nger useful under cu nditions of ample supply latively stable prices

''It may even result in hi ices as marketers seek to ease prices by the maxin lowable amount at the be ng of every month to naximum pricing authority he month, rather than ceed to adjust prices at a n gradual pace which mi otherwise prevail."

In addition, he said, o sumers might benefit beca the new pricing flexibility v make it easier for independ marketers to engage in pr competition.

The limits on refinery pro margins which Zarb propos eliminating were adopted i tially by the Cost of Livi Council as a part of its effort hold down prices througho

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#### R.J. EDWARDS, INC.

INVESTMENT SECURITIES

ESTABLISHED 1892

2205 CITY NATIONAL BANK TOWER OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102

405/236-3541

Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear General Walters:

January 7, 1975

June 1975

June

I want you to know how much I appreciate your taking the time from your busy schedule to come to Oklahoma City to talk to our Rotary Club. I only hope that your message will wake some people up and give them the ammunition that they need to inform their other fellow citizens about the dangers we face in today's world. As you can see, the message that you gave must have struck a chord with many of the people there and I just pray that it won't roll off their shoulders and be forgotten but that rather it will get them to talking with their fellow citizens, as this is a prominent group of leaders in the community and the nation and many of them if they so chose could be very influential in getting your message across.

I was greatly embarrassed that many of the people that I had invited to the reception for you after your speech did not show up in time to visit with you. This event was planned at the last minute as I did not know how long we would have after your talk when I first invited you. However, I tried to invite a group of prominent people in influential areas who do speak up and talk about the things they believe in, to come and visit with you, and I was greatly embarrassed and distressed that more of them did not show up in time. I hope you will accept my apologies on this matter.

Enclosed is an editorial that was written as a result of your talk with John Couston Curry so you can be assured your message received a far broader audience than rotary. Also none of the muckracking questions that were asked by a TV representative were shown on TV but rather a picture of you saying "we have the finest, most dedicated Intelligence Service in the World" etc. The coverage was very favorable on TV.

If I can ever be of any further service to you or to the Agency, please let me know as I am at your service. Once again I have heard many people remark on what a fine and informative talk you made.

Sincerely yours,

Ellis Edwards

EE/me

The Daily Oklahoman Wednesday, January 7, 1976

## The Self-Destruct Scheme

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These efforts to learn more about our avowed adversaries in the world and their person-to-person weapons of war are being used today to pillory the entire intelligence establishment. Yet they occurred almost a generation ago, before the present CIA leadership was even involved at the agency.

In keeping up a drumroll of such criticism, which paints the CIA as a nest of terrifying threats to our freedom, some of its critics seem to hope it will become one of those TV "self-destruct" mechanisms, and disappear. But the CIA's service is so vital that if it did not exist today, we would have to invent it. Its mission, after all, is to ensure that there will be a United States in the future.

## 28 Wednesday, January 7, 1976

#### THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

## Not True, Says Director

Army Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, asserted in a speech in Oklahoma City Tuesday that no one was ever assassinated by a CIA agent or as the result of CIA plans.

Walters, speaking before the Rotary Club of Oklahoma City, charged that CIA critics have treated revelations of past discussions about proposed assassinations as if they were accepted CIA plan.

Attempts on the lives of foreign leaders were merely among things proposed to the CIA, but were never adopted, he said.

Walters dismissed the alleged assassination ideas as "ancient history" in terms of how much has happened on the international scene since.

Walters also defended the CIA's past experimentation in the area of chemical warfare.

He said the agency developed and stockpiled lethal toxins for experimental purposes after some emigres from Communist countries were killed in Europe by strangers who brushed against them in crowded places.

The agency believed it important to determine what kind of poisons were used, how they were used and how Americans could be protected from such death attempts. He said this occurred more than 20 years ago.

Walters explained the CIA's experimentation with mind-altering drugs as a reaction to publicly televised confessions of such prominent Communist resistors as Cardinal Mindszenty.

He said agency officials were convinced that the resistors had been subjected to some form of chemical brainwashing because some of the same individuals had endured severe Nazi torture without breaking.

Walters said the recent criticism has hurt the CIA but the agency has managed to maintain its function.

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R. J. EDWARDS, INC.

INVESTMENT SECURITIES

ESTABLISHED 1892

2205 CITY NATIONAL BANK TOWER

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102

405/236-3541

January 14, 1976

Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Gen. Walters:

Enclosed is a copy of another newspaper article done as a result of your talk here in Oklahoma City that I overlooked when I sent you the other clippings. Although the headlines are somewhat of an eyecatcher the article as a whole is not totally anti-Agency.

Once again, thank you very much for taking the time from your very busy schedule to come to Oklahoma City. If ever I can be of any service to you or the Agency please let me know.

Sincerely,

Ellis D. Edwards

Approved Por Release 2007/02/16: CIA-RDP80R01731R002100020037-1

Re: DOD Supplied Aircraft (T-39) for Houston/Okla. City

Whenever a "Non-revenue aircraft" is traveling, DOD has policy that if aircraft is going somewhere and they have other people going that same way, they must be allowed to board...

Does DDCI have any objections to this? It may not be that anyone will also join flight, but just in case.

Marie

## Approved For Release 2007/02/16 CCAPUP80R01731R002100020037-1

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Plans Office

25X1

## WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

DEC 1 9 1975

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|                |                      | Deputy Directoric of Headquarters                                      | f Plans (DCS                   | S/P&O)   |  |      |               |
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| 3.<br>billing, | Funds ar<br>please c | e available to<br>ite FAN 6210-10                                      | defray the                     | cost of this s                                     | support. When                                    |      |               |
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| Per Mr. Thuermer 18 Dec 75:  |      |
| Location of Breakfast is changed to Stouffer's Hotel, Greenway Plaza,  |      |
| Houston, Texas.  |      |
|  |      |
| Mr./McClaininvites Gen Walters to have dinner with him evening of 5 Jan 75.  | STAT |
|  |      |

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Executive Registry

22 August 1975

| Mr. Tom McClain   | STAT |
|---|------|
| Dear Mr. McClain,   |      |
| Here's a bio of General Walters and some other information about the Agency.        |      |
| Let us keep in touch as the day for his speech approaches. I am always available on | STAT |
| The General is looking forward to his trip to                                       |      |

Sincerely,

/s/ Angus MacLean Thuermen

Angus MacLean Thuermer Assistant to the Director

mb Encs.

#### TOM MCCLAIN

August 15, 1975

Mr. Anges Thurmer Assistant Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Thurmer:

Thank you for your call on August 13, 1975, to my secretary, (C) Kathie Ellis, verifying the invitation that we sent to you for a speaker on January 6, 1976 at the Executive Breakfast Club of Houston. Your deputy director, Lieutenant General Vernon Walters, would be most welcome to be our speaker at this meeting.

Too, as we discussed on the phone, I would appreciate receiving any general p/r information regarding the CIA and biographical information on Lieutenant General Walters. If we can be of any assistance to Lieutenant General Walters, please advise.

many thanks,

Tom McClain

TM:kme

CC DDC1-8/19/75

P. O. DRAWER D

STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477

713**,**499**,**42<del>18</del>-

#### TOM MCCLAIN

July 23, 1975

Mr. William Colby Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

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Several weeks ago, I noticed in some national business publication, that the Central Intelligence Agency had speakers available for civic organizations.

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|           | advised   | me to   | contact   | your offic              | e direc | etly.  |         |

The Executive Breakfast Club comprises a membership of 80-90 young professionals and executives who meet monthly at 7 A.M. at the Travelodge Motor Inn, 2828 Southwest Freeway. Normally, our guest speakers have the floor for 20 to 30 minutes and then a short question/answer period follows.

We would like to invite one of your representatives to be the guest speaker on January 6, 1976 at the meeting of our club.

Hoping this engagement can be arranged, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Tom McClain

TM: kme

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TM:kme

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Tom McClain

TM: kme

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## TÓM MCCLAIN

impressed me, a hell Fortunatily I , too, have a young lady who waks with me who is STAT

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| Approved For Release 2007/02/16: CIA-RDP80R01731R002100020037-1 Executive Registry  ADMINISTRATIVE/INTERNAL USE ONLY   | <b>Y</b> |
|--|----------|
|  | ГАТ      |
| MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD  |          |
| SUBJECT: Executive Breakfast Club Apology for Newspaper Article<br>on D/DCI Talk   |          |
| 1. On 7 January 1976 Mr. Tom McClain. President Executive Breakfast Club, telephoned the Office. Mr. McClain asked this office to convey to Lieutenant General Vernon Walters, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, McClain's sincere apology for the type of newspaper coverage given the General's talk to the Executive Breakfast Club. Mr. McClain specifically mentioned the article sppearing in the 6 January 1976 editions of the Houston Chronicle as distorting the thrust and substance of the talk. Mr. McClain stated he had telephoned the Houston Chronicle to complain about the article and he was determined to pursue the matter until the Chronicle prints another, more balanced report of the talk.  2. As of 13 January 1976 no such article had appeared in the Houston Chronicle. | STAT     |
| Attachment: Copy of 6 January 1976 <u>Houston Chronicle</u> article  | STAT     |
| cc: DCD/Chief of Operations  Office of the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence   |          |
| RHL/jr   |          |
|  | STAT     |

ADMINISTRATIVE/INTERNAL USE ONLY

#### HOUSTON CHRONICLE

6 January 1976

## Probe Could Damage CIA, Agency Official Says Here

The deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said here today that recent congressional investiga-

tions of the agency were "like rummaging through the garbage of history" and have the poten-tial of damaging the nation's intelligence operations.

The deputy director, Vernon A. Walters, however, said the CIA "will live with" the investigations because the United



States requires that its intelligence arm be responsible to elected representatives.

Walters said congressional investigators are charging us "with things that happend in the 1950s and 1960s."

Walters spoke at a meeting of the Executive Breakfast Club, a group of young businessmen, at Stouffer's Hotel. Walters refused to answer questions

from reporters.

He conceded that the CIA had been involved in the planning of assassinations and experiments with drugs and poisonous toxins.

He noted, however, that the investigations showed no evidence that any planned assassinations were carried out.

There have been "some kooks and nuts" in the CIA and overzeal and misjudgments by agents of the CIA since the agency was organized 27 years ago,

Walters said.
"But they're been very few and far between," he said.

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