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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

*Orig League of Women
Voters
Overseas Education Fund
Roberts, ANN
CIA 4.01 Domestic Spying*

PROGRAM THE AMERICAN WOMAN

STATION WCBS

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CIA of League of women Voters

LEE THORNTON: THE AMERICAN WOMAN. New charges that the CIA used the League of Women Voters overseas to conduct surveillance on women's groups. I'm Lee Thornton reporting on the CBS Radio Network. More in a moment.

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THORNTON: A Seattle woman is charging that the Central Intelligence Agency used a branch of the League of Women Voters to collect information about women's groups overseas. Ann Roberts who worked as a secretary for the Overseas Education Fund of the League says she can substantiate the charge.

ANN ROBERTS: I knew it because I gathered this much from reading the correspondence in the office that was freely circulated and was not secret or anything. It was everyday information in the office, and it didn't take too long to figure it out.

THORNTON: And what did it benefit the CIA to spy on overseas women's groups?

ROBERTS: In doing this, they can learn how to manipulate women's groups as they did in Chile, and I think it has been proven that the CIA provided funds to various movements in Chile in order to disrupt and sabotage the Allende government, and they can do the same thing -- they did it with the women's groups in Chile, they bussed them from one area of Santiago to another, and it was called The Empty -- the March of The Empty Pots, and it made it look like the poor people were against Allende's government when in fact it was the upper-class women who were demonstrating that created quite a bit of disruption in Allende's government. And, I don't want this to happen again, women being manipulated like this.