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Who Is Going to Watch Caretaker's Daughter?

When the National Security Council meets again today, it will have another headache to add to all the others. The "watchdog" committee has been reactivated by the President to check on the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Our top-secret organization once again finds someone looking over its shoulder to make certain everything is going according to Hoyle. Intellectuals, led by Dr. James R. Killian Jr., will be watching intellectuals. But as the old song goes: "Who's going to take care of the caretaker's daughter while the caretaker's taking care?" This is a humorous way of asking, now in all seriousness, how the federal government can honestly believe a "watchdog" committee will improve the effectiveness of the CIA.

Why not simply instruct the intelligence agency to buckle down and get the job done right the first time or else expect the consequences? After all, our objective is success. If we don't achieve it, we know who's at fault. We already have a government being run by committees, none of which do more than offer palliatives when we need a cure.

Just what will this country do the next time someone kicks us in the seat of our breeches for not manning the bastion—go straight to the agency that let us down or spend months searching through watchdog committees trying to find who is really to blame? This isn't taking care, it's taking chances.