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A virtual news blackout has been declared by the nation's press concerning the major legal challenges that have been launched against the Central In-Telligence Agency.

The August 10 filing of a suit in Washington against CIA Director Richard Helms and other government officials was a matter of court record and easily accessible to the news media. In addition, a news release containing essential facts about the story was hand delivered to the Washington Post, the Evening Star, the Associated Press and United Press Inter-

A week later, not one line concerning it had appeared anywhere in the country.

It was confirmed by THE VOIC that editors were well aware of the story and its importance.

A call to one of Washington* two dailies by a source accessible to THE VOICE produced this comment from a leading reporter "You can call it a 'press conspiracy' if you like, but we're not going to print it and I'm sure no one else is either."

Earlier this year on July 20 an important decision in the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals guaranteed that the CIA would be brought to court on a challenge that had been in process since 1968. America's

greatest newspaper the New York Times, ignored the story, as did the Washington Evening Star and most other papers. The Washington Post carried the story as a small item on page ten.

Special Edition

The Washington Post, The Evening Star, the news services and the local radio stations have seen fit to suppress one of the major news stories of the year -- the legal challenges to the nerve center of American imperialism, the Central Intelligence Agency.

For this reason THE VOICE felt obligated to fill the void by bringing out the ... first "special edition" in its young life.

Domestic Spying

The National Security Act which created the CIA states that it shall not have "police, subpoena, law-enforcing powers or internal security functions. The CIA has been operating in violation of this law for at least fifteen years and probably longer.

In early 1966 Richard Helms, the Director of the CIA, in testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee stated flatly that the CIA does not operate in the United States.

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Yet in 1964 in a court case involving two Estonian emigres the CIA presented to the court a secret document authorizing it to engage in certain domestic activities.

This authorization was in the form of an executive order which seems to be in direct violation of the act creating the CIA.

As a matter of fact the domestic operations of the CIA. were so large by 1964 that it set up a Domestic Operations. Division with headquarters at 1750 Pennsylvania Ave., about a block and a half from the White House.

Major breaks in CIA secrecy in 1966 and 1967 resulted in disclosures that the CIA was very heavily involved in financ ing all types of programs at such major universities as Michigan State and the Massachusetts Institute of Technol-.

In addition, it was revealed that the CIA had subsidized many domestic organizations including the major American student organization, The National Student Association. CI money also found its way into at least twenty foundations, as well as Radio Free Europe, a large publishing house, and various other organizations.

Have the CIA's domestic operations ceased? . A simple inspection of telephone books discloses that today the CIA has offices in at least twenty American cities.

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