# 'Gap', In Intelligence Put In Critics' Minds

Mahon Also, Says Administration Let Itself Be Goaded Into Baring Secret Data

By PETER J. KUMPA

[Washington Bureau of The Sun] Washington, March 7-A top congressional defense expert today called upon the Administration and Congress, the press and the people, to end careless and loose talk that he said was ruining American intelligence efforts.

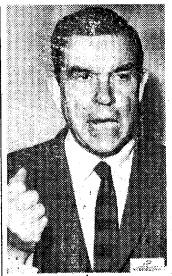
Representative Mahon Texas), chairman of the special Military Appropriations subcommittee, called the present situa ition "outrageous and intolerable."

He included both parties and takenly allowed itself to be goaded branches of Government in his angry criticism delivered on the House floor shortly after it opened its session.

### "Revealing Secrets"

"There has been talk of an in telligence gap," said Mahon. "There is an intelligence gap. The gap is in the intelligence of those who are daily revealing the secrets of the intelligence operations of the United States Government.'

"Critics have made public statements on matters which should never be discussed in pub '' said Mahon.



REPRESENTATIVE MAHON "Anonymity is part of job"

both the executive and legislative into revealing information detri-talked about behind closed doors. mental to our best interests," he While most of the recent dis-

special subcommittee handling in-lissue of Cuba, including both the telligence, Mahon did not mention names as he complained about sile showdown with the Soviet high-ranking intelligence officers Union, Mahon blamed the "debeing quoted in the public press.

"These are men who, from the 1960 U-2 incident. standpoint of the general public should neither be seen nor heard," Mahon declared. "A passion for however, that blame for the pas anonymity is an integral part of was not important as activity follows their jobs.'

"The Administration has mis-as to warrant jeopardizing our national security," he added.

> In the last two weeks, John C. McCone, director of the Central do know, gives him a priceless Intelligence Agency, and the three chiefs of the separate military agencies have all testified before congressional committee, with at least part of their testimony made public.

McCone told of the 1,000 to 1,500 Latin Americans trained in ideology or guerrila warfare or both in Cuba last year.

Maj. Gen. Alva R. Fitch, Army intelligence chief, told a Senate committee recently that Russians appear to be storing complex and n:odern arms, though not missiles, in Cuba caves.

The Air Force intelligence chief, Maj. Gen. Robert A. Breitweiser,

testified about aerial reconnaissance of Cuba to the same
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Rear Adm. Vernon L. Lowrance. Chief of Naval Intelligence, last month testified that it was the Navy that was responsible for the first tip that caused a step-up in observation and eventual dis-covery of the offensive Soviet build-up in Cuba. The Navy became suspicious over the sudden deavoring to obtain," the con-increase in Soviet shipping.

#### Called By Committees

The military men as well as McCone did not volunteer but were called up by the congressional committees.

So Mahon blamed not only them but senators and congressmen who were discussing matters pubthat should have been

cussion of intelligence activities A top-ranking legislator on the has revolved around the partisan 1961 abortive Bay of Pigs invasion and the October, 1962, misterioration of secrecy" for the

## "Priceless Advantage"

The Texas Democrat asserted the future.

"Headlines are not so precious "To be successful," he said, to warrant jeopardizing our national security "he added secret. To let the enemy know just how many of his secrets we know and just which ones we advantage.

''Today's headlines may cost the lives of the human sources of information," he continued.

"The enemy can find our intelligence activities, and once know-ties in this field." ing the location, the discovery of means is much easier and as a result intelligence sources dry

Mahon concluded that "immaturity and indiscretion" in "constant disclosures' was making the United States the "laughing stock of the world."

"Officials in Moscow, Peking up to review the work of CIA.

spend huge sums of money en-

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"Let us be silent with respect to these sensitive matters," he said.

He did not mention the host of Republicans who have led the way in disclosing intelligence data on Cuba, led by Senator Keating (R., N.Y.).

Nor did he mention Democratic officials such as Robert F. Kennedy, Attorney General, whose disclosure of other information placed the Administration in a kinder light.

## "Coordination Required"

Mahon did single out McCone who is charged by law with protecting intelligence sources and methods for unauthorized dis-

"I call on him to fully carry out the difficult and important duties of his office in this respect. said the Texas Democrat. "A government-wide coordination of effort is required.

Mahon admitted that the American people were interested in intelligence activities, particularly in the "mystery and aura" that surrounded the business.

But he warned that the country was not playing games in intelli-

#### "Further Erosion"

"Our national survival to a great extent depends upon our knowledge of our enemies' activiligence sources much more easily ties," said Mahon. "The price we when he knows what we have pay for the luxury of public disfound out. This knowledge helps closure of intelligence activities is to pinpoint the location of intel-the further erosion of our capabili-

> Mahon said it was difficult enough getting information from closed Communist societies. Publicity on the intelligence made it more difficult, he added.

> Representative Rogers (D. Fla.) today continued his daily demands that a joint congressional watchdog committee be set

and Havana must applaud our Part of his reasoning is RDP75-00449R000500112083509Mahon's, simply to facts which they would gladly serve intelligence secrecy. Part of his reasoning is simi-

Stennis (D., Miss.).