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# Editors Told Key Russians Serve as Spies for CIA

Chicago Sun Times

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency says it has penetrated the Soviet government with a "number of well-placed" Russian spies.

Richard M. Helms, in his first public speech in five years as director of the CIA, Wednesday cited the spies' key role in the 1962 Cuban missile crisis and implied that some of them are still operating in the Soviet Union.

By surfacing the claim at this time, Helms apparently sought to serve notice to The Kremlin that the United States has secret ways of checking on its good faith in current negotiations on strategic weapons, the Middle East and other critical issues.

HELMS SAID THE CIA was able to detect Russian missiles in Cuba in 1962 "thanks to U-2 photography of the Soviet Union and to a number of well-placed and courageous Russians" who provided crucial details on Soviet missile systems.

Helms was asked later if he was referring to Col. Oleg V. Penkovsky, the Soviet military intelligence official who served as a double agent for both the CIA and British intelligence. Helms replied that his remarks covered Penkovsky and "others."

Penkovsky was arrested Oct. 22, 1962, at the height of the Cuban missile crisis, and executed May 16, 1963. But the Soviet government has made no public mention of additional spies in the case.

HELMS' SPEECH thus left the

implication that "other" CIA agents remain in place inside the Soviet Union.

Helms obtained clearance from President Nixon before accepting the invitation to speak before the annual convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Herbert G. Klein, the President's communications director, saw nothing unusual in the CIA making a public defense of its operations at this time.

But Helms' speech created a considerable stir in view of the current clamor over Army and FBI "spying" on civilians. He went to great lengths to insist that the CIA has "no domestic security role."

"We do not target on American citizens," he said.

HE DENIED AS "vicious" a charge that the CIA is involved in the world drug traffic. Sen. George McGovern, D-S.C., demanded Wednesday that the CIA and the State Department investigate allegations by Ramparts magazine that the CIA

facilitates the movement of opium out of Southeast Asia.

Helms conceded, on the other hand: "Our mission, in the eyes of many thoughtful Americans, may appear to be in conflict with some of the traditions and ideals of a free society . . . assertions that the Central Intelligence Agency is an 'invisible government' — a law unto itself, engaged in provocative covert activities repugnant to a democratic society and subject to no controls . . ."

"It is difficult for me to agree with this view, but I respect it."

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