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Little Brother Is Watching

Fifth Estate Keeps Its Eye On CIA, FBI

By ART SILLS, Gazette Staff Writer

It began, in February of 1973, at the 50th birthday party of Norman Mailer. There were 500 people at the Four Seasons in New York and they paid \$30 each and some very stiff drinking was in evidence. Mailer stood up and told the crowd where its money was going. The money would create a tax - free foundation called "The Fifth Estate," he said.

The Fifth Estate would be "a democratic secret police, a people's FBI and a people's CIA to investigate those two," he said. "If we have a real democratic secret police to keep tab on Washington's secret police, which isn't democratic, but bureaucratic, we'll then be able to see how much of our paranoia is justified," he said.

Wednesday night, Tim Butz of The Fifth Estate sat in a lecture room at Western Michigan University and talked about how the work is going. "The CIA now is on the run," he said. But the job is not done, he said. "We have one hell of a job on our hands," he said.

This has all become a matter of newspaper headlines. Butz is co - editor of The Fifth Estate's quarterly newsletter, Counter - Spy. When CIA station chief Richard Welch was gunned down last month in Greece, the newsletter was blamed for blowing his cover.

Butz is 28, a veteran of 19 months in Vietnam who came home in 1966 to Kent State University in Ohio and the antiwar movement. He is a stocky guy with a light brown beard. On Wednesday night, he wore a blue leisure suit. A red tie was pulled loose at the collar. His right hand waved a pencil in small arcs as he spoke.

He said the CIA has a 30 - year record of "murder, carnage, infiltration, subversion and 10,000 other forms of horror throughout the world." The record is continuing in the war in Angola, he said.

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The talk was sponsored by two campus groups, The Committee for a Democratic Foreign Policy and the Southern African Liberation Committee. Chris Root, a Washington, D.C., lobbyist, and Barbara Marsh, of the Michigan Free Press, a counter-culture newspaper in Ann Arbor, also spoke.

Miss Root recited the history of Angola. "The history of oppression, and its result in Angola, is indeed a very long one," she said. "Colonialism means different things in different countries, and in Angola, it was an especially harsh one."

The war in the African country is between those that would have "neo - colonialism" and those that want "true independence," she said. She said the MPLA (the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) is fighting for the "self-determination of Angola."

The MPLA has Soviet backing. The U.S. monies have been going to the other side, she said. For the CIA, Butz said, "Angola is just going to be one more along a long, long list." For the CIA, Butz said, it is another attempt to make the world safe for the "multinational corporations."

The talk went for more than two hours and then there were audience questions and Butz said there was a big job of public education to do.

He spoke to a lecture room of students who grew up with a war on nightly television. We must work, Butz said, to clear away "the bleakness that we see in our lives in the 1970s."