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C.I.A.'s Covert Role: Ford's Defense Runs Against C

every reason to expect a ques tion on the subject because of the recent disclosure that the Nixon Administration authorized the Central Intelligence Agency to spend \$8-million on covert activities in Chile between 1970 and 1973.

Indeed, Mr. Ford may have had the help of those who authorized those expenditures in framing his reply. In any event, he chose to defend the helpayi. the recent disclosure that the

he chose to defend the behavi-or of the old Administration rather than chart a new policy for his own.

His response was presumably considered in advance. He had every reason to expect a ques-tion on the subject. Last week it was disclosed that the Nixon Administration had authorized the Central Intelligence Agency to spend \$8-million on covert activities in Chile between 1970 and 1973. Those activities were approved by the so-called 40 Committe, whose chairman was and is Secretary of State Kis-

singer.

Mr. Ford possibly may have had the help of those who authorized those expenditures in framing his reply. In any event, the President chose to defend the behavior of the old Administration rather than Administration rather chart a new policy for his own.

Cold-War Rhetoric Seen

Another kind of reply was possible. The President might have said that he was not responsible for past activities of the C.I.A., but would be responsible for its future behavior, and would accordingly review its policies and plans. He did promise to meet with the Congressional committees.

the Congressional committees that review the covert actions of the agency to see whether they might want to change the review process. Those commit-tees, however, are not noted in Washington for vigor and skep

ticism.
Mr. Ford himself was a mem-Mr. Ford nimself was a mem-ber of one of them for nime years when he was a Repre-sentative from Michigan. His reversion last night to the reason and rhetoric of the

cold war, however mildly ex-

good enough for Ford," one of be known that the clandestine what international law gave the President's friends reoperations of the C.I.A. were United States the right to "demarked today."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17
President Ford helped revive a dying issue last night. That issue was whether it was proper for a democracy, using its intelligence agencies to intervene in the internal affairs of other countries.

Analysis Mr. Ford, at a news conference, seemed to answer the question affirmatively. He ard knowledged that the United States had made an effort to preserve an opposition presist and opposition political parties in Chile during the rule of a Marxist President. Salvador All 185. preserve an opposition press and opposition political parties in Chile during the rule of a Marxist President, Salvador Allende Gossens, who died in a military coup in September, 1973.

President Ford justified the effort, which was made during the Nixon Administration, by saying that it was "in the best interest."

"I am reliably informed," fully as the Chile-operation, alchowedged as readily and certainly in our best interest."

"I am reliably informed," fully as the Chile-operation, alchowedged as readily and the nations spend vastly more money than we do for the same kind of purpose."

"I came, oddly, when such account of the propose."

"I came, oddly, when such account on the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation our current activities or the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemals of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the overthrow of Premier of the current security of the United States." Mr. Colby ack-home foundation of Guatemal as the One of Guatemal as the Outer of Current activities or the current activities of the current activities of the current activities of the current activities or the current activities or the current activities of the current activities of the current activities of the current activities or the current activities or the current activities of the curr inst nations spend vastly more was low-keyed.

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