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Speaker questions U.S. covert actions

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

A former CIA agent famous for his books exposing covert CIA operations, spoke Tuesday night about his experiences during a lecture sponsored by Latino & Latin American Studies.

Phillip Agee said he resigned from the CIA after nine years of covert work because of his growing disagreement with the agency's policy of working to control supposedly free countries.

"I began to see what I and my colleagues had been doing in Latin America for the CIA ... was nothing more than a continuation of — at that time — nearly 500 years of genocide, exploitation, and political repression," Agee said.

The United States has a long history of conducting questionable operations in other countries, especially Cuba, he said.

Agee spoke extensively about the history and structure of the CIA. He said the CIA had three roles: foreign intelligence, covert

action operations and counterintelligence.

Agee said the foreign intelligence division affected Italian politics from 1948 to 1992. In 1948, he said, President Truman feared the communists would win the election.

So \$10 million was set aside to support the Christian Democratic party, he said. He said the Christian Democrats won the election and were in power, with the support of the U.S. government, until 1992.

The covert action operations division, he said, was intended to manipulate institutions of power in foreign countries — the government, military, police, trade unions and the media.

Agee said the counterintelligence division's mission was to penetrate the intelligence services of other countries, friend or foe, and to spy on their spies. Another role, he said, was to prevent penetration of the CIA by foreign spies.

Agee blamed the Vietnam war on a failed CIA operation. He said it was ironic that the whole affair began when a doctor with the Office of Strategic Services — the predecessor of the CIA — saved Vietnamese leader Ho Chi Minh's life in 1940.

The audience chuckled when Agee said Edward Langsdale of the CIA was sent to Vietnam to establish a new South Vietnam in an effort known then as "nation building."

Agee said that effort failed, and brought military advisors and eventually half a million U.S. soldiers into Vietnam.

The CIA began a secret war against the Viet Cong infrastructure, he said, which included an agenda of assassination called the Phoenix Program. He said the Vietnamese government had reported the Phoenix Program caused 40,000 murders.

Agee also blamed the proliferation of Stinger missiles in world arms markets on the CIA. He said the CIA in the 1980s, in coopera-

tion with Saudi Arabia, gave a total of \$7 billion in arms to the Mujahideen rebels fighting the Soviets.

Those arms included 1,000 shoulder-launched, heat-seeking, ground-to-air Stinger missiles. He said only 350 of those missiles were used in the successful effort to drive the Soviets out of Afghanistan, leaving 650 missiles unaccounted for.

Those missiles began showing up on the international arms market, he said. CIA agents scrambled to try to buy up the remaining missiles, he said, but were unsuccessful.

Agee spent a large part of his lecture speaking about Cuba. He gave a detailed history of the Cuban Revolution, telling a story about how Fidel Castro swam across the Rio Grande River to get money for his revolutionary efforts.

Castro started with 12 men and conquered the 40,000-strong army of Cuban ruler Fulgencio Batista through his strong recruitment.

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ASUN approves resolution against higher fees

By Melanie Brandert
Staff Reporter

ASUN senators approved a statewide resolution Wednesday night urging the Legislature not to increase students' financial burden.



The resolution asks the Legislature not to decrease state aid to Nebraska's colleges and universities or increase tuition and student fees. The resolution was formed by student government leaders from Nebraska's universities and state and community colleges at the Statewide Student Government Conference last month.

The resolution must be approved by every student government by the end of the semester in order to present it to state senators in January.

Association of Students of the University of Nebraska senators also approved a by-law change requiring student organizations to submit a one-page letter as part of their recognition process.

That letter must detail potential activities and the organization's intent. The by-law change was approved by a vote of 20-3.

Bill Anderson, senator from the College of Arts and Sciences, said the by-law change would more clearly define the intent of student organizations who wish to be recognized by ASUN.

ASUN President Andrew Loudon said the senate's constitution prohib-

its senators from changing the intent of an organization.

He asked Anderson, who proposed the bill, if the by-law change would be a catalyst for senators getting involved with a student organization's content.

But Anderson said the by-law change was neutral and should not affect what organizations can or cannot do.

"It's simply a way for (senators) to know what they're doing," he said. "It gives no power to deny them organization status because of what they're doing."

Two new senators also took the oath of office during the meeting: David Nosal, a graduate senator, and Travis Hopkins, a senator from the Nursing College.

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Powerball

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bers from a field of 45 numbers and then the Powerball.

Stephanie Tittsworth, an employee at U-Stop Convenience Shop at 17th and Q streets, said ticket sales increased this week.

Tittsworth said that on an average day, customers bought about 30 tickets. Customers bought 375 tickets on Tuesday and 400 tickets before noon on Wednesday, she said.

Tittsworth said many stopped in and bought tickets on their way to work Wednesday morning.

"Every single person who came in bought a ticket," she said.

Report

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Regents first began discussing a separate college in September 1993. In October, four consultants were hired, but they failed to provide enough information for a decision to be made on the college when they returned their report in March.

Shortly after taking office that same month, Smith impanelled the second nine-member task force to gather that information. Task force members selected by Smith included:

- Lee Jones, NU executive vice president and provost.
- Del Weber, UNO chancellor.
- Joan Leitzel, UNL senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.
- Gene Koepke, UNK vice chancellor for academic affairs.

- John Chapman, director of research-irrigation division Valmont Industries, Valley.

- Lee Kearney, president of Kiewit Construction Co., Omaha.

- A.F. "Tony" Raimondo, president and chief executive officer, Behlen Manufacturing, Columbus.

- Fred Choobineh, professor of industrial and management systems engineering; UNL Academic Senate President.

- Dale Krane, professor of public administration; UNO Faculty Senate President.

Task force members delivered the report to Smith on Nov. 11. He will bring the report and his own recommendation about a separate college to the NU Board of Regents in its Dec. 9 and 10 meeting. Regents are expected to vote on the proposal at that time.

Engineering

Continued from Page 1

• All additional operating costs, new buildings and equipment were financed by private donors.

• The projected employment growth in engineering was centered in the Omaha area. The findings were based on a projected 8 percent engineering job growth in Omaha in the next five years.

In the report, Allen also found that since 1983, the number of engineering students declined by 12.2 percent nationally and by 32 percent at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In addition, 42.8 percent of recent Nebraska engineering students left the state after graduation, he wrote.

The college at UNL also has the capacity to graduate an additional 70 to 141 engineering students each year, he wrote.

Allen's findings raised questions, however, for at least one member of the NU Board of Regents.

Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha, who returned home from vacation Wednesday to find the report, said she questioned its impetus, timing,

sources and presentation.

"Whether he did this as a goodwill effort or whether there were other inducements, I do not know," said Skrupa, who had time only to skim the report Wednesday.

Allen could not be reached for comment Wednesday evening.

Skrupa said she also wondered why Omaha engineering faculty members had not been contacted. Faculty members told her Wednesday that Allen did not interview them or use University of Nebraska at Omaha sources.

"He did not balance the issue by checking with UNO, as far as engineering is concerned," she said.

The report cites UNL research sources, an Omaha World-Herald article and other engineering journal articles.

Skrupa said she thought all academic reports should include information from every side.

"When scholars lend their names to pieces of literature, it should be verifiable and it should be cross-referenced," she said. "If you do an unbiased report, you would talk to both sides of the issue."

Skrupa said she also was surprised

"I don't think this report is relevant at all. It appears to be one man's opinion."

ROSEMARY SKRUPA
NU regent

that Allen sent the letter to Smith on Creighton University letterhead. Creighton, she said, is not involved in the debate.

"I'm just curious why he would use that letterhead," she said. "I'm quite confident that Creighton University is not getting involved in this issue."

But Skrupa said she thought the report would have little impact on the engineering debate and the board's expected vote on the college next week.

"I don't think this report is relevant at all," she said. "It appears to be one man's opinion."