CIA's Colby speaks about Chile, abuses

By Elaine Douglass

Press reports of CIA abuses have been "exaggerated" and "sensationalized," and the United States needs the CIA to get information "about the dangerous world outside our borders," former CIA director William Colby told an audience at MIT last week.

Colby was director of the CIA from 1973 to 1975, when he was dismissed by President Ford. Colby said he was fired because Ford and Henry Kissinger thought he was too candid with Senators investigating the CIA.

"Throughout history, even from the time of Moses, intelligence has been faithful and outside the law," Colby declared. The 1947 legislation which established the CIA was written, he said, in "one, fuzzy language.

"After Vietnam and Watergate, we asked all CIA employees to search their memories and their files for objectionable past practices," he said. "We collected a bundle — not a very big bundle — and in there we found some things we didn't like. Then we decided the CIA should be under American law." he continued. "And since that time there has been no case where the CIA has violated its regulations.

CIA regulations are in the form of presidential executive orders. A controversial feature of the orders promulgated by both the Ford and the Carter Administrations is a provision authorizing warrantless surveillance and physical searches without a warrant. "The CIA is under a legal obligation to conduct any surveillance or searches without a warrant. Pending federal legislation would prohibit warrantless taps and break-ins, even in national security cases.

There is no longer a danger that US intelligence agencies will violate laws and regulations. Colby maintained, because a "new era" of law-abidingness has set in. "The CIA is under a legal obligation. CIA employees would go to the press, they would explode if there was a major cover-up," he said. "The CIA is patriotic — that's your fundamental protection."

Colby repeatedly declared the CIA must preserve its capability (Please turn to page 14).

Mountaineering#3

METHODOLOGY

Mountaineering, as all but the chronically misinformed know, is the skill, the science, the art of drinking Bush Beer. It begins by heading for the mountains, (i.e., a quick jaunt to your favorite package emporium or wateringhole) and ends by downs the mountains (i.e., slowslaking swallows of the brew that is Busch.)

However, between those two points lies a vast area of personal competence sometimes called technique and sometimes called methodology (depending on your major). Hence, this ad. "Slipping vs. chugging. Both have their merits, of course. But generally speaking, except for cases of extreme thirst or a leaking glass, slipping is the more prudent practice for serious, sustained mountaineering."

Next, some other points, some by sitting, others by standing. Suffice it to say that the most successful mountaineers are flexible, or you'll find both siters and standers.

(Except on New Year's Eve, when it's almost impossible to find a sitter.) "Slipping" brings us to additives. Occasionally a neophyte will sprinkle salt in his Busch; others mix in tomato juice, and a few on the radical fringe will even add egg. While these diversions can't be prohibited (this is, after all, a free country), they are frowned upon. Please be advised that purity is a virtue, and the natural refreshment of Busch is best uncompromised.

Finally, there's the issue of containers. Good taste dictates a glass be used. But bad planning sometimes prevents that. If you find yourself forced to drink from the can, you should minimize any breach of etiquette. Be formal. Simply let your little finger stick out stiffly (see Fig. 4). Happy Mountaineering!