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Threats Alleged

June 24, 1963

CIA Tries to Oust Student Tenants From Their Rent-Free Headquarters

By Herbert H. Denton
The Central Intelligence Agency, landlord on a "rent-free" basis for the National Student Association over the past two years, is now trying

to evict its recently estranged tenants.

W. Eugene Groves, president of NSA, told a reporter yesterday that three CIA conduits which had financed NSA projects until last February, when the NSA-CIA relationship was made public, had in the past month sent the Association bills totaling about \$23,000 and dating back "three or four years."

J. Walton Senterfitt and Arthur S. Weiner, NSA staff members, both said that during current negotiations between NSA and the CIA over the building at 2113 S st. n.w., the Agency had expressed its determination to get NSA out.

Threat Reported

They said that Agency representatives had threatened to send people to the NSA Student Congress in August to tell college delegates of the continuing NSA-CIA tie.

Groves would not confirm or deny that the threat had been made. He said that ill-feeling between NSA and CIA pervaded current negotiating sessions and that "feelings" that the CIA wanted to oust NSA from its present quarters had been "transmitted."

The offices were leased to

NSA in the fall of 1963 by the Independence Foundation, a CIA conduit, for 15 years, rent free.

They are valued at \$120,000, are owned by the First National Bank of Washington, and, according to Groves, were leased to the Independence Foundation.

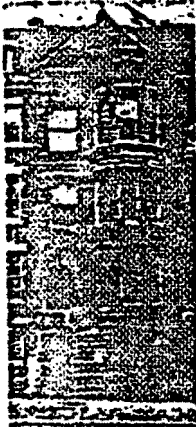
They consist of two four-story townhouses that were renovated for office use. The two structures, one red brick and the other grey stone, are connected by hallways.

Negotiating For Building

Groves said the Association was currently negotiating with representatives of the CIA either to purchase the building itself or to seek a non-CIA connected foundation that would buy the building and rent it to NSA.

Richard G. Stearns, International Affairs vice-president, indicated that the Association would stick by the present lease arrangement if no acceptable agreement for purchase of the building could be negotiated. "It's an iron-clad lease," he said.

However, Groves said that NSA is "trying to clear the tie of Agency financing of the building."



The Washington Post
NSA HOME — The house at center and the one at left are headquarters of the National Student Association.

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