From Washington

From Chicago.....

From London - comes tonight's news. Good Evening...

I'm Mitchell Krauss sitting in for Lowell Thomas and

reporting on the CBS Radio Network.

A former Air Force officer - Fletcher Prouty told a House committee today that fifteen years ago the CIA sent a pair of two-man assassiation teams to Cuba. Armed with high-powered rifles, their mission was to kill Fidel Castro. Prouty says the teams flew to Cuba in small aircraft - but remained there only minutes before taking off and returning to the U.S. NO reason was given for the abort Prouty said his job - as Liaison officer - had been to make technical arrangements for the flight. In other testimony, he also identified Alexander Butterfield as a CIA "contact man" in the White House during the Nixon Administration.

It was Butterfield - a presidential aide - who disclosed the existence of the White House Watergate tapes which led to Richard Nixon's downfall. However, Frank Church - chairman of the Senate group probing the CIA - says to date there "is NO evidence the CIA ever planted or concealed agents in the White House without the President's knowledge." The CIA denied that Butterfield was ever employed by the CIA in any capacity.

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Watergate also re-entered the news today with a decision by Federal Judge John Sirica - freeing from prison the four Cuban-Americans who did the actual bugging of Democratic Party headquarters three years ago. The four Bernard Barker, Frank Sturgis, Eugenio Martinez and Virgilio Gonzales - have served about thirteen months and today's action erases the remainder of their sentences. Earlier this year, Sirica reduced sentences to time served for a number of Nixon administration and campaign figures, including John Dean, Jeb Stuart Magruder, Herbert Kalmbach and James McCord. Of the seven men involved in the original break-in, only two - Gordon Liddy and Howard Hunt, Junior - remain in prison.

President Ford traveled west through his home territory today - arriving in Chicago where - in his first speech outside Washington since declaring his Seventy-Six candidacy - he said all signs now point to a rebounding national economy. He also tooknote of his growing reputation as a "veto-minded" president - saying some vetoes might be unpopular in the short run, but they were the right action for long-term national economic health.

The First National City Bank of New York today raised its interest rate for prime business loans from seven to seven-and-aquarter per center. The increase reflects the current Federal Reserve policy of tightening money and credit as a brake on rising prices.

Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz says any sales of U.S. grain to Russia will have only a minimal effect on the price of bread for the American dinner table. His assurances come one day after the Agriculture Department estimated record U.S. corn and grain crops this year.

Warning British citizens that rampant inflation could bring economic castrophe, Prime Minister Wilson announced plans for tough wage and price controls in Britain - effective August First and extending one year. Included is a thirteen-dollar-and-eighty-cent a week ceiling on pay hikes. Anyone making the equivalent of nineteen-thousand-five-hundred-fifty dollars a year or more won't get any raises at all.

ARGENTINA

Bowing to organized labor demands, Argentine

President Isabel Peron today accepted the resignation of four

of her eight ministers - including the powerful Special

Welfare Minister Jose Lopez Rega, her personal secretary

and close friend.

The House International Relations Committee today approved legislation that would permit the immediate release of one-hundred-eighty-five-MILLION dollars in U.S. arms already purchased by Turkey.

The President of the Malagassy Republic - that's the island of Madagascar, has threatened to close down the U.S. Nasa Ground station at Tananarive for what Radio Madagascar calls non payment of rent. The station, now said to be under Military control, has been one of the major ground contact points for Nasa.

Nasa says it cannot confirm the occupation - but says it has planned all along to close the station July Fourteenth. It is not being used for the upcoming U.S.
Soviet Space flight, which is scheduled for Tuesday.

IF CONTROL X