

Defector: China's spy agency two-faced

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- China's spy agency tries to steal U.S. secrets while cooperating with the CIA, a veteran Chinese intelligence officer who defected to the United States said.

China's Ministry of State Security, modeled after the former Soviet Union's KGB, "spends a tremendous effort to send out spies to important countries like the United States to collect information," Li Fengzhi told The Washington Times aided by an interpreter.

Li, awaiting U.S. political asylum approval, said anti-terrorism cooperation between the MSS and the CIA and FBI can be constructive but U.S. agencies must always beware of ulterior MSS motives because the agency serves the Communist Party rather than the interests of China's people, he said.

Li, who told the newspaper he worked in the MSS department in charge of gathering economic, political and technical information in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, said the spy agency is focused on sending spies to infiltrate the U.S. intelligence community and to collect U.S. secrets and technology.

Wang Baodong, a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, didn't address Li's comments directly, but said, "Allegations of China conducting spying activities against the United States are groundless and unwarranted."

"China never engages itself in activities that will harm other countries' national interests," he told the Times.

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