Wright was right

I'm afraid that the Sept. 22 Daily News editorial headlined "Loose lips," deserves treatment as harsh as that which you dished out to House Speaker Jim Wright.

First, if you accuse someone of revealing classified information, you should show some evidence. Wright has denied this charge. Moreover, he is not on the Intelligence Committee, and has not attend-

ed its briefings.

Second, your criticism that Wright is indifferent to the "safety of others (CIA operatives in Nicaragua)" seems disingenuous. What about the brutality and illegality of President Reagan's seven-year war against the people of Nicaragua. Teachers, health workers, and poor peasants murdered by the Contras testify to the CIA's concern for the "safety of other."

Third, you approve of CIA-orchestrated "demonstrations for liberty" in Nicaragua, as if they are not intended to provoke the Sandinistas into repressive action which would stampede Congress into renewing military aid to the Contras. What turnip truck did you just fall off of? Ask the people of Iran, Guatemala and Chile about CIA-sponsored "demonstrations for

liberty."

Finally, to answer your question about Wright's timing in criticizing the CIA: Last year, the five Central American presidents signed a historic peace accord (thanks to Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Sanchez Arias of Costa Rica), which is the foundation of the recent attempts by the Sandinistas and the Contras to reach a non-violent accommodation.

Washington's goal of sabotaging these efforts (and destroying the Arias plan as well) is Orwellian, and Wright's indigna-

tion is justified.

Rather than attacking Wright, you should be ashamed of yourselves for supporting Washington's program of violence in Nicaragua. It is time to stop the killing.

DAILY NEWS 10-4-88 Bill Becker
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