

Presidential Powers Hit at Senate Hearing

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Senate Judicial subcommittee hearings on separation of powers in government yesterday turned into a platform for attacks on the growing authority of the President at the expense of congressional power.

Subcommittee Chairman Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) said the study will include the use of presidential emergency powers. "An example is the question of the use of troops by the President without congressional action," he said.

He also mentioned "the extent to which the executive branch may ignore mandates contained in congressional legislation."

Sen. J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.) said joint resolutions and congressional briefings had been used as a device for the purpose of creating the impression of congressional consultation "where the substance of it is lacking." He cited the Tonkin Gulf resolution as a "blank check" and said President Kennedy during the Cuban missile crisis had not given congressional leaders infor-

mation until after decisions were made.

Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss.) said the executive branch has "utterly ignored" Congress in setting up school desegregation guidelines for the South but not the North.

And Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) said congressional mandates were completely ignored in Administration decisions not to build the B-70 or use funds appropriated for the Nike X antiballistic missile system.

Sen. Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) called for the creation of a "congressional counsel general" to make sure laws are being administered as Congress intended, among other functions.