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Bury The Skeleton

CPYRGHT

"It is sad," just as Sen. Sam Ervin said, that legislation should be considered to keep the constitutional rights of U.S. government employees from being trampled asunder by their employer.

But, as Sen. Ervin added, "Such legislation is necessary." And the senator is right.

Witness the recent, clandestine search of the home of a Central Intelligence Agency employe by a couple of CIA sleuths who feigned interest in buying the house.

Examine, if you will, the way lie detector tests are being used to pry into such personal realms as religious beliefs and sexual habits; and the many ways government employees are being pressured and indoctrinated in the management of their off-duty time.

Witness, especially, the appar-

ent increase in these tyrannies in recent years.

TO RIGHT THESE wrongs, Sen. Ervin, a Democrat from North Carolina, has introduced a "civil servants' 'Bill of Rights'."

In introducing this bill, Ervin isn't acting as an alarmist. That's not Ervin's way. He and his subcommittee on constitutional rights enjoy one of the finest records of responsibility to be found on Capitol Hill.

The tyrannies he sees invading the privacy and molesting the dignity of our government's employees are all too real.

Sen. Ervin has performed a service to federal employes and all Americans by finally dragging this skeleton from the closet.

Now Congress should bury the skeleton by adopting the legislative solution he's proposed.