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PROGRAM News 7 Final

CPYRGHT

STATION WMAL-TV

DATE July 28, 1966

11:00 PM

CITY Washington, DC

SENATE REACTS TO HELMS LETTER

JOSEPH MCCAFFREY: "Some Senators are sizzling, some just surprised, other shocked, all because the new head of the CIA, Richard Helms, wrote a letter to the St. Louis Globe Democrat voicing his pleasure in having read an editorial in that paper castigating Senator William Fulbright for his effort to bring the spy agency under broader Senate surveillance.

CPYRGHT "CIA watchdog Committee member Saltonstall refused to believe the head of the silent agency would do such a thing, left the Senate Floor to call Helms, did, and he found out the Director had written the letter. Said one Senator, 'It makes you worry.' Tonight it's revealed Helms later telephoned an apology to Fulbright. Fulbright, asked about this, confirmed it -- said, 'I was glad to hear that. Otherwise,' he said, 'the incident speaks for itself. I have no other comment on the matter.'

"Interestingly enough, who is the witness before Senator Fulbright's Foreign Relations Committee tomorrow? CIA Director Richard Helms."