

BILL ON C.I.A. GOES TO SENATE TODAY

Measure Would Add Three to Watchdog Committee

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WASHINGTON, June 21—

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will report to the floor tomorrow a bill to add three of its members to the committee supervising activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

With hopes of a compromise faded, Senator Mike Mansfield, the majority leader, said today that he planned to call the controversial bill up for action when the Senate returns from a Fourth of July recess on July 11.

The bill, which was sponsored by Senator Eugene J. McCarthy, Democrat of Minnesota, was approved by the Foreign Relations Committee on May 17 by a vote of 11 to 5.

It would create a Select Senate Committee on Intelligence Operations composed of nine members. The Armed Services Committee, the Appropriations Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee would each supply three.

Russell Is Chairman

Ever since the C.I.A. was created by the National Security Act of 1947, Senate supervision has been the province of a group made up of ranking members of the Armed Services Committee and the Defense subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. The chairman of the watchdog committee, now numbering seven members, is Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat of Georgia.

The decision to take the McCarthy bill to the floor for a showdown followed repeated failures by Senator Mansfield and Senator J. W. Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, to reach a compromise with Senator Russell and the Administration.

Arguing that his committee, because of its jurisdiction over foreign affairs, should be represented on the watchdog committee, Mr. Fulbright suggested to Mr. Russell that three Foreign Relations members be

added by agreement without recourse to legislation.

Senator Russell refused on the ground that he did not have the authority to make such an agreement.

When Mr. Mansfield likewise failed to make a dent in Senator Russell's opposition to any increase in the watchdog committee, Senator Fulbright wrote on June 13 to Adm. William F. Raborn, retired, then Director of Central Intelligence.

Mr. Fulbright asked Mr. Raborn whether he would give recognition to a subcommittee of the Foreign Relations Committee and supply it with the information furnished Mr. Russell's group.

Senator Fulbright recalled that when Mr. Raborn appeared before his committee last February to discuss the question of supervision, he declined to answer some questions.

In his reply last Wednesday, Mr. Raborn said of the February meeting:

"The questions to which I stated I was unable to respond were questions directed to the activities of the agency as to sources and methods, rather than to substantive intelligence information."

Mr. Raborn made plain that the C.I.A. would continue to refuse to members of the Foreign Relations Committee any information on "sources and methods."

Scholarships Cited

It was learned that one of the questions on "sources and methods" Mr. Raborn refused to answer was whether the C.I.A. ever used the Fulbright scholarship program as a cover for its agents.

Mr. Raborn, it was learned, also declined to answer any questions about the cover supplied C.I.A. agents by a technical assistance program in South Vietnam that was run under contract to the Government by Michigan State University from 1955 to 1959.

Some members, it was said,

were greatly disturbed about the refusal to answer questions about possible use of the Fulbright scholarship program.

Senator Fulbright conceived this program in 1945 when he

introduced a bill to use the local currency proceeds from the sale of United States surplus property abroad to finance exchanges of students, teachers and artists. The Fulbright Act was passed in 1946, and exchanges began in 1948.

After the surplus property was sold, the program was financed by local currency proceeds from the sale of surplus agricultural commodities.

Under the program, 28,098 Americans have studied abroad, and 53,572 foreigners have come to the United States.

The Fulbright program has been a source of pride to the Senator. Consequently, he spoke with some feeling on May 16 when Senator Milton R. Young, Republican of North Dakota, who is a member of the Russell group, suggested that the Foreign Relations Committee set up its own subcommittee on the C. I. A.

Without stating what ques-

tions Mr. Raborn refused to answer, Mr. Fulbright said the admiral had conceded that he would answer them if asked by the Russell committee or by the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Mr. Fulbright noted that eight of the nine members of the board were not Government officials. He said:

"While I do not wish to puff up the importance of Senators too much, I do believe that as elected representatives they are as much entitled to information about this activity as are these private citizens who come from the business life of the nation and also from the ranks of retired generals or semi-retired generals."

It could not be learned today whether Mr. Fulbright had taken up with President Johnson the kinds of questions Mr. Raborn had refused to answer.