

PROGRAM The Today Show

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SENATOR FULBRIGHT INTERVIEWED

FRANK BLAIR: "Chairman J. William Fulbright and other members of his Senate Foreign Relations Committee heard closed door testimony from our Ambassador to South Vietnam, Henry Cabot Lodge. And the Committee struck a blow against what a majority of its members thought was too much secrecy in the operation of the Central Intelligence Agency. They took steps to put three committee members on the Congressional board that oversees CIA activities. Fulbright told why."

FULBRIGHT: "The principal argument, I believe, is that most of the at least publicized difficulties that have appeared in the press in recent years regarding the CIA have almost always been in the field of foreign relations. And that the -- a number of the committee feels that this is the area which has caused considerable question and in some cases criticism -- that it would be the responsibility of the committee to be represented there. And some of us, including myself, feel that if such a committee was created that it would improve the relations of the Senate and the public with the CIA."

"Rather than being a reflection upon the CIA, I feel that it would be an improvement in our relations and would tend to modify, if not eliminate, to a great extent the criticisms that I think sometimes arise out of a feeling that there is not sufficient and not as careful supervision of this agency as there ought to be."