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Senators Rap CIA, Ask Closer Controls

From Sun-Times Wires

WASHINGTON—The Senate heard new charges Monday of alleged "bungling" by the Central Intelligence Agency and a plea for establishment of a joint congressional watchdog committee for the CIA.

The attack on the secret agency was voiced on the Senate floor by Sen. Stephen M. Young (D-Ohio), who said the time was "long past due" for Congress to establish its authority over the intelligence agency. However, prospects were dim that Congress will establish any such watchdog panel. Similar proposals have been defeated since the CIA was born in 1947.

Young's speech appeared to have stemmed from the disclosure earlier this month that

Sec. of State Dean Rusk had apologized in 1961 over a CIA operation in Singapore that ended in failure and the arrest of the American agent involved. Young called the episode "disgraceful."

U-2, Bay Of Pigs

"In addition to its mistakes in Southeast Asia," he said, "everyone is aware of the damage to our prestige caused by CIA bungling of the U-2 incident of five years ago and of the disastrous role CIA operatives played in the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion."

The CIA has "in effect been making foreign policy," he said. "The CIA has gradually taken on the character of an invisible government, answerable only to itself."

Sen Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) joined Young's call for a joint committee. Morse called the

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CIA "a police state institution" which "has much to answer for" in the deterioration of America's image in Latin America and for "mismanagement of affairs" in the Dominican Republic.

Charges Overstaffing

Young said he believes the CIA is "overstaffed" but can't prove it because of lack of accountability of the agency to Congress.

"This agency does not account to anyone for the expenditure of millions of dollars," he said. "Undoubtedly some CIA agents have been corrupted along with attempting to corrupt officials of other governments."

The CIA's budget is secret, but the agency is believed to spend upwards of \$1 billion a year, and has more than 13,000 employees. Its headquarters is at Langley, Va., across the Potomac River from the capital. It is headed by retired Vice Admiral William F. Raborn, who succeeded John A. McCone in April.

Defenders of the intelligence agency argue that subcommittees of the House and Senate Armed Services and Appropriations committees already oversee CIA on an informal basis. Proponents of the watchdog panel would like to see a formal joint committee with a professional staff, much like the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

Other congressional developments: