

OLD RECORD COPY
Legislation

4 November 1978

NOTE FOR THE FILE

FROM:

SUBJECT: "Federal Tort Claims Act"

Spoke with Parks Stearns, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Congressional Affairs Office. Mr. Stearns and I, having worked on the Federal Tort Claims Act during the 95th Congress, will meet for lunch on 9 November 1978 to discuss the bill's prospects in the 96th Congress.

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1. I spoke with Ms. Ricki Tigert, principal staffer on the Senate Judiciary Committee concerned with the Federal Tort Claims bill.

2. She advised me that neither House nor Senate Committee will consider (mark up) the bill until after recess, i.e., 6 September. She added that, although most followers of the bill feel that it is dead--principally due to lack of time and other pressing legislation--Attorney General Bell is of a different mind and continues, with some hope of success, to push the bill along.

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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14. (Unclassified - MDC) LEGISLATION Spoke with Mr. Park Stearns, FBI Congressional Liaison.

It was agreed that we would work in tandem with the Department of Justice in order to ensure that CIA-FBI amendments to the Federal Tort Claims Act were incorporated during mark-up - should the same occur this session.

15. (Unclassified - MDC) LEGISLATION Spoke separately with Mr. Ben Read and William Bacchus, Department of State regarding CIA-State efforts to secure a broad Foreign Service exemption from the Senior Executive Service of the Civil Service Reform bill. Both agreed that Civil Service and White House agreement to push the CIA-State amendment was sufficient. Mr. Read thanked us for our efforts on State's behalf which, he said, had won the day.

16. (Unclassified - MDC) LEGISLATION Spoke with Ms. Ricki Tigert, Senate Judiciary Counsel, who stated that unless the House undertook mark-up of their version of the Federal Tort Claims Act this week and its efforts met the approval of Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum (D., Ohio), the Senate sponsor, the chances of passage this session were grim.

17. (Unclassified - MDC) LEGISLATION Spoke with and explained to Mr. Simon Lazarus, Associate Director, Domestic Policy Staff, the White House, CIA's problems with Foreign Service inclusion in the Senior Executive Service provisions of the Civil Service bill. Mr. Lazarus agreed to accept, on behalf of the Administration, CIA's position in this area!

18. (Unclassified - MDC) LEGISLATION Spoke with Miss Cynthia D. Sprunger, Legislative Assistant to Representative James A. S. Leach (R., Iowa).

A meeting was agreed between Representative Leach and Miss Sprunger [redacted] in order to discuss anew a remaining problematic provision contained in the House version of the Civil Service bill which had been originally introduced by Mr. Leach. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for 20 September at 1330 hours in 1724 Longworth House Office Building.

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