

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS
28 January 1980

CIA Knew Of Invasion: Bayh

The Central Intelligence Agency knew about Soviet troops gathering near the Afghanistan border before their invasion of Afghanistan, according to Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind., chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

At a dinner meeting here Saturday night, Bayh defended the CIA's actions on recent events in Afghanistan. "I have read about how the CIA was caught short," Bayh said. He maintained, however, that the CIA had kept President Carter informed of the imminent Soviet invasion.

"We have the capacity to see and learn and know where they (Soviet troops) came from," he said. "We couldn't look into the minds of the (Soviet Army) field commanders and see where they were going, but we knew they were not on the Afghan border to pick mushrooms."

On another matter, Bayh told 300 Indiana Jaycees at their statewide winter meeting that he would approve drafting women in the armed forces if the Equal Rights Amendment were approved.