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WASHINGTON  
BENTSEN

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, Thursday began a five-day tour of Central America at the request of the Central Intelligence Agency, aides said.

Bentsen, a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, planned to tour El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Mexico.

Bentsen is the only Intelligence Committee member who serves as a congressional adviser to President Reagan's bipartisan task force on Central America.

Aides said the CIA asked Bentsen to make the trip because of his position on the committee.