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## The main thing— Bush is qualified

Since when does the fact that a person has been a loyal, hard-working member of his chosen political party disqualify that individual to head the Central Intelligence Agency?

Sen. Frank Church of Idaho says he cannot vote to confirm George Bush as the next director of the CIA. Church explains that he is unhappy because President Ford is replacing William Colby as CIA chief.

Church, of course, has the right to be unhappy. But the President has the right to replace anyone in his branch of government in a policy-making position whenever he chooses.

So why is Church so down on Bush?

Apparently, the Idaho senator feels the appointment of Bush is too political. He notes that Bush has been national head of the Republican Party, adding that this does not qualify him to become head of the CIA.

Certainly, Bush's appointment is

political. What presidential appointment isn't? And the fact that Bush once headed the Republican Party does not alone qualify him to head the CIA. Church, however, fails to mention some of Bush's other qualifications.

The son of a distinguished senator from Connecticut, Bush has devoted much of his life to government service. He is extremely knowledgeable about government, politics and foreign affairs. Bush also has served as this nation's ambassador to the United Nations. And more recently, he has become an expert on the workings of the Chinese Communists as our man behind the bamboo curtain.

All this makes us believe Bush may be far more qualified to head the CIA than any number of other people, possibly including some the senator from Idaho might want to see in that position.