Panel to probe CIA link to JFK death

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WASHINGTON-The Senate WASHINGTON—The Senate Committee on Intelligence Operations is planning an inquiry into persistent but never proven allegations of Central Intelligence Agency Involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy.

According to informed sources, members of the committee's staff believe they cannot ignore the issue even if the prospect of set-ting it appears remote.

"I think it's fair to say they're sniffing around on that right now." one source said. "But there's no formal investigation yet and I don't know if there will be."

Plans so far apparently call only for a preliminary inquiry. Under the committee's rules, a full investigation cannot be initiated without majority approval from the 11-member panel.

"We might just end up exonerating them (the CIA) on this one," another source said, "but that's all right. That's our business, too."

Recent disclosures concerning the ClA's domestic activities have encouraged a resurgence of charges that Kennedy was the victim of a conspiracy that involved the CIA.

A group headed by come-

dian Dick Gregory has as-serted that E. Howard Hunt Jr. was picked up by the Dallas police shortly after the 1963 shooting and near the scene.

The Warren Commission. which investigated the assassination, said that Lee Harsmatton, said that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed Kennedy. A persistent critic of the commission, harold Weisberg, s a id Wednesday he doubted that any inquiry by the Senate committee c o u l d prove

ville J. Brim Jr., president of the Foundation f.r Child Development in New York City, said he also st pported an independent body. and the

cut agency named by executive, legislative,

Edward J. Bloustein, president of Rutgers University, said he favored an independ-

professor, said he did not believe such a board would

All four agreed that an agency should be created to oversee the CIA in an effort to monitor its spy activities. Some said the monitoring could be conducted inside the CIA, while others argued for an independent board.

The four appeared at the the weekly meeting of the minission, which was

could be

Agency is needed to oversee CIA, profs tell panel judicial branches. and six agents (of the CIA) to create a balance between individual values and government needs," he said. But William W. Van Alstyne, a Duke University law Arthur R. Miller, a Harvard law professor, said the CIA could set up its own board to monitor its activicharges of illegal domestic spying by the CIA. "Perhaps there cosix security-cleared of four professors gave the Rockeller commission conflicting testinony Monday over the best way to prevent the Central Intelligence X-ency from invading the privacy of Americans. - A panel WASHINGTON