

# Dirksen Opposes Larger CIA 'Watchdog' Group

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United Press International

PATSH/166

Senate GOP Leader Everett M. Dirksen, from his hospital wheelchair, has joined the fight to prevent the enlargement of the Senate's Central Intelligence Agency "watchdog" subcommittee.

Chairman Richard B. Russell of the Senate Armed Services Committee seemed to have enough troops to keep the Foreign Relations Committee from "muscling in," as he put it, on the special CIA subcommittee he heads. But Dirksen, who broke his thigh in a fall at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center ten days ago, gave his support to Russell in absentia.

At issue is a resolution, approved by a 14-to-5 vote of the Foreign Relations Committee, to add three of its members to the groups of Senators who now oversee CIA affairs, and make it a formal committee,

the "Select Committee on Intelligence Operations." Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) is the sponsor of the proposal.

"I'm distressed that I'm not on the Senate floor at the moment because I certainly would join with Sen. Russell of Georgia and try to put an end to this resolution to threaten CIA with a larger panel," Dirksen said.

He gave his views in a radio report, recorded in his suite at Walter Reed, for broadcast to his Illinois constituents.

Dirksen said part of the problem in protecting CIA secrets is that grassroots constituents always want to know "all the secrets of Washington." There is always the "danger, the disposition, because of that weakness in the human being," that a lawmaker back home making a speech "may disclose something."