

Carter Didn't Chew Out CIA Boss

White House press secretary Jody Powell confirmed yesterday that President Carter sent a memo to CIA Director Stanfield Turner criticizing the intelligence community's failure to forecast the gravity of civil strife in Iran.

But Powell insisted to reporters accompanying the President on Air Force One that the memo wasn't "chewing out" Turner.

The memo, Powell said, was a "strongly worded" criticism of the intelligence community's failure to predict the Iranian revolution. Powell said the memo was "not a reprimand" but a "statement of concern."

Previously, Carter had reportedly felt embarrassed by a Rhodesian commander's move into Zambia against insurgent rebels while Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith was visiting the United States in October.

The Rhodesian strike also was not predicted by the intelligence community.

Carter's handwritten memo was dated November 11 and went to National Security Affairs, State, Defense, Brzezinski and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

According to informed sources, the memo faulted Friedman of Turner who under current organization is head of the U.S. intelligence community.

The memo also criticized other intelligence agencies in predicting the gravity of the Iranian strike.

A spokesman for a committee in Washington confirmed that a subcommittee of the panel is examining the quality of intelligence on Iranian developments.