

Dulles 'Made the Case'—Fulbright

Bay of Pigs Role of CIA Confirmed

Sen. William Fulbright has given a first person confirmation of accounts that it was the Central Intelligence Agency that "made the case" for the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion. Sen. Fulbright said in a censored version of secret Senate debate July 14, that what has been written about the CIA role before the April 17, 1961, invasion was, "By and large, absolutely correct."

The four-hour debate in a rare closed-door session of the Senate was on a proposal to add three foreign relations committeemen to the congressional group that

oversees CIA operations. The proposal was defeated.

TWO-HOUR SESSION

Sen. Fulbright said he attended a two-hour meeting at the State Department with the late President John F. Kennedy, Allen Dulles, former CIA director, and 15 other persons he did not identify.

"This was before the Bay of Pigs," Sen Fulbright said. He said he heard Mr. Dulles "make the case for intervention . . ."

It has been widely reported that the CIA and Mr. Dulles became advocates of the invasion plan but the Fulbright statement was the first on-the-record confirmation from a participant in pre-invasion talks.

A REASON

Sen. Fulbright cited the Bay of Pigs and other unspecified cases of CIA intervention in foreign relations as reasons for his group being added to the CIA watchdog panel.

"I think many of the CIA activities tend to discredit the integrity of our country, and these activities . . . raise a number of questions with respect to the influence of our foreign policy," Sen. Fulbright said.

He asked, "How can we (the committee) give any advice that is worth anything if we are not informed as to what is going on and if we do not have the information on which to base a judgment?" (UPI).