

CIA (D)
**House Democrats Endorse
Own Study on Intelligence**

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 29—A Democratic study group unanimously recommended today that the House create a bipartisan select committee to investigate the activities of all Government intelligence agencies.

The proposal, made by seven Democratic representatives appointed to the study group two days ago by Speaker Carl L. Albert, virtually assured that the House would follow the Senate in consolidating mushrooming intelligence inquiries under one new committee.

The Senate voted, 82 to 4, on Monday to create an 11-member panel to determine whether the Central Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and more than a dozen other Federal agencies had acted illegally or improperly in discharging their surveillance functions.

The House study group urged a comparable investigation after Representative Lucien N. Nedzi, Democrat of Michigan, unexpectedly agreed that his Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence, which has primary House jurisdiction over the C.I.A., was too narrowly focused to undertake a broad review of the entire Federal intelligence apparatus.

The six other Democrats on the study panel quickly approved Mr. Nedzi's motion to recommend a select committee of seven Democrats and three Republicans to "conduct an inquiry into the organization, operation and oversight of the intelligence community of the United States.

Mr. Nedzi said in an interview that, although he had

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planned to conduct an investigation into charges of illegal domestic spying by the C.I.A., he had concluded that a new select committee would be the "only sensible way" to explore questions about the conduct of various other information gathering agencies.

Caucus Must Vote

The proposal requires endorsement by the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and the caucus of all 290 House Democrats before the full House can vote to establish the select committee and fund its investigation. But Mr. Nedzi's embrace of the approach appeared to remove the last significant hurdle to a centralized House inquiry.

The House Republican leader, Representative John J. Rhodes of Arizona, told reporters this morning that he favored the establishment of a select committee. He said it would avoid "running the risk" of a fragmented investigation by half a dozen House panels, each of which has limited jurisdiction over some of the various intelligence agencies.

The study group's recommendation was a victory for Representative Michael J. Harrington, Democrat of Massachusetts, who said he was "surprised"

by Mr. Nedzi's decision to yield jurisdiction. Mr. Harrington had been urging a select committee since Congress convened two weeks ago and he had threatened to seek a caucus vote to create the panel if Democratic leaders did not.

'Tremendous Pressure'

Mr. Harrington said that he expected to be in a minority when the study group met today. The other members, drawn from the House Democratic leadership and rank and file, were Representatives Robert N. Giaimo of Connecticut, John J. McFall and John E. Moss of California, Jonathan B. Bingham of the Bronx and Mendel J. Davis of South Carolina.

Mr. Giaimo, the chairman of the study panel, said that he had been reluctant to go along with Mr. Harrington because "I don't think the answer to every problem is to create a new committee." But Mr. Giaimo said that there was "tremendous pressure" in the party caucus to set up a committee with wide jurisdiction and a broad mandate to propose methods for improving Congressional supervision of the intelligence community.

Mr. McFall, the House Democratic whip, and Mr. Nedzi both said that they hoped the House inquiry would focus more on constructive remedies than on what Mr. Nedzi described as "past history." The reference apparently was to disclosures by The New York Times and

other publications of allegedly improper surveillance activities by the C.I.A. and the F.B.I. in recent years.

"We're dealing with something that is inherently irreconcilable—secrecy in an open society," Mr. Nedzi said.

Mr. McFall said in an interview that there had probably been a "temptation" for various recent Presidents, Democrats or Republicans, "to use a bunch of well-trained detectives available to them." He added that he was "not at all sure their intentions were bad."

'Lack of Attention'

At the same time, he said, a thorough investigation would demonstrate that "we don't want people to feel there is any cover-up or lack of attention" to intelligence agencies.

Mr. Nedzi's resolution called for a report by the select committee to the House "as soon as practicable" but no later than Jan. 31, 1976, on the conduct of a dozen specific intelligence agencies "and any other instrumentalities of the United States Government engaged in intelligence activities."

The agreement to pursue a broad inquiry but one independent of the Senate apparently doomed efforts by some in Congress to set up a joint House-Senate committee. But House members said that such a joint oversight panel might well be one of the eventual recommendations of the investigating committee.