

**'Ill-advised'** NOV 12 1975

# Sen. Church Fights Bush Nomination

Washington

The chairman of a committee investigating U.S. intelligence activities urged the Senate yesterday to reject President Ford's "ill-advised . . . astonishing" nomination of former Republican National Chairman George Bush to head the CIA.

"The line must be drawn somewhere, and a man of Mr. Bush's prolonged involvement in partisan activities at the highest party level surely passes over that line," Senator Frank Church (Dem-Ida.) said in a Senate speech.

Church's Senate intelligence committee has been conducting a nine-month-long look at U.S. intelligence activities.

Mr. Ford announced November 3 his nomination of Bush, to succeed William Colby, fired in the "Sunday massacre" with Defense Secretary James Schlesinger.

"I find the President's appointment astonishing," Church said of Bush, now a U.S. envoy to China. "It is one thing to choose an individual who may have had political experience, and quite

another to choose someone whose principal political role has been that of chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Church said Bush's nomination is "ill-advised" because the CIA "must resist all the partisan pressures which may be brought to bear by various groups inside and outside the government — including partisan pressures from the White House itself."

"The critical factor is the selection of a person of demonstrated independence, someone who would have the ability to say 'No, Mr. President, I believe you are wrong.'"

Church noted that Mr. Ford had not eliminated Bush as a possible vice presidential running-mate in 1976, and questioned whether Bush could stand up to pressures from a Republican President in an election year.

"Bush is a likeable man, who may be well suited for political office. But he is not the man to head up the CIA," Church said. "I urge senators to stand up and oppose this nomination."

Church's view was challenged by Senator John Tower (Rep-



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SEN. FRANK CHURCH  
'The line must be drawn'

Tex.), vice chairman of the Church committee.

He said Bush has "the right kind of instincts, the right kind of intellect, the right kind of character and the right kind of personality" to head the CIA, and predicted the Senate Armed Services Committee will endorse the nomination.

Before his speech, Church told reporters, "If a Democratic President had proposed Larry O'Brien (former Democratic national chairman), there would have been an uproar."

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