

C.I.A. Role Confirmed

WASHINGTON, July 28 (UPI) — Senator J. W. Fulbright has given a first-person confirmation that the Central Intelligence Agency "made the case" for the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion.

The Arkansas Democrat said in a censored version of secret Senate debate of July 14 that what had been written about the agency's role before the April 17, 1961, invasion was, "by and large, absolutely correct."

The four-hour debate was on a proposal to add three Foreign Relations committeemen to the Congressional group that oversees C.I.A. operations. The proposal was defeated.

Mr. Fulbright said he had attended a two-hour meeting at the State Department with President Kennedy, Allen W. Dulles, then head of the C.I.A. and 15 other persons he did not identify.

"This was before the Bay of Pigs," Mr. Fulbright said. He said Mr. Dulles had presented "the case for intervention."

The Fulbright statement was the first on-the-record confirmation from a participant in the preinvasion talks.

Mr. Fulbright cited the Bay of Pigs and other unspecified cases of C.I.A. intervention in foreign relations as reasons his group shared representation on the C.I.A. watchdog panel.

"I think many of the C.I.A. 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," Mr. 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?"

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