

Symington Has Memo of Spy Plan

Associated Press

Washington

Senator Stuart Symington said yesterday he has obtained secret White House documents that reveal a plan to use the CIA and the Pentagon to gather intelligence information within the United States.

The Missouri Democrat said some of the proposals were in documents hidden by ousted White House counsel John W. Dean III for a time in a safety deposit box at a suburban bank.

The documents "set no limits on the amount of burglary" the CIA and the Department of Defense could have been involved in, said Symington, acting chairman

of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Symington said plans outlined in two sets of White House documents in his possession were never implemented and did not specifically include political spying.

Gerald L. Warren, deputy press secretary at the White House said that "a plan of this type was never implemented."

The CIA is forbidden by law from any domestic intelligence gathering role. Military intelligence has been used in the past only in cases where there was a threat of civil disturbance that would require the use of federal troops, and congressmen have questioned some of these activities.

TESTIMONY

Symington disclosed existence of the documents in discussing testimony by former White House employee Tom Charles Huston before a closed door session of the Armed Services Committee.

Huston, a former aide to Dean, said to the committee that copies of the plan to gather espionage information were to go to President

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Nixon and White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman, Symington said.

Huston testified he dealt only with Haldeman, not Mr. Nixon, according to Symington.

Warren said he had not seen Huston's testimony but on the basis of news reports there appeared to be inaccuracies in the account Huston gave the committee.

Symington declined to release the texts of the two sets of documents, and said they should not be released to the public because of any adverse impact affecting national security.

HOOVER

Symington said J. Edgar Hoover, the late FBI director, resisted implementation of the White House proposals. The FBI by law has the principle responsibility for the Nation's internal security.

Symington said Huston verified the authenticity of the documents, which bear his signature.

Symington quoted Huston as saying that both sets of documents deal with recommendations and decisions made inside the executive branch during the fall and summer of 1970.

The Armed Services Committee was provided the first set last Wednesday and Thursday by representatives of the Department of Defense and other members of

the U.S. intelligence community, including the FBI, Symington said.

"The committee was told by these representatives that this first set of documents is the same set which John W. Dean III placed in a safety deposit box, Symington said. The Dean papers have been released to the U.S. prosecuting attorney in Washington and to the Senate Investigating Committee.

Symington said a second and different set of the documents relating to the same intelligence plans were given to him personally at the end of last week. He would not say who provided them.

"The committee has no proof that either set of documents relates to the Watergate bugging itself," Symington said.

ELLSBERG

Symington agreed, when asked by newsmen, that the break-in at the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist was the type of burglary the documents referred to.

But he would not say whether the documents specifically referred to the Sept. 3, 1971, break-in at the psychiatrist's office.

Symington said Huston, 32, started as a White House speech writer, then worked in the presidential counsel's office under Dean.

He left the White House staff in June, 1971, after 2½ years with the administration.

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