

# House Establishes Special Panel to Probe CIA

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The House voted yesterday to conduct its own investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency and the government's other intelligence agencies after beating down a Republican bid for a bigger voice in the inquiry.

Speaker Carl Albert (D-Okla.) immediately named seven Democrats and three Republicans to the select committee that will be in charge of the investigation.

Rep. Lucien N. Nedzi (D-Mich.), who already heads a standing House Armed Services subcommittee in charge of CIA oversight, was named chairman.

The House authorized creation of the committee by a vote of 86 to 10. It will have a maximum budget of \$750,000.

House Republicans, led by Rep. John B. Anderson (Ill.), pressed in vain for half of the seats on the committee as a guarantee that allegations of illegal or improper intelligence activities under Democratic as well as Republican administrations would be explored.

The Democratic majority refused to budge. The GOP bid was rejected by a virtually straight party-line vote of 265 to 141; only six Democratic representatives joined the Republicans.

The Democrats appointed to the committee under Nedzi are Reps. Robert N. Giammo (Conn.); Don Edwards (Calif.); James V. Stanton (Ohio); Michael J. Harrington (Mass.); Ronald V. Dellums (Calif.) and Morgan F. Murphy (Ill.).

The House Republicans, who were picked by House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes (R-Ariz.), are Reps. Robert McCloery (Ill.), David C. Treen (Ia.), and Robert W. Kasten Jr. (Wis.).

During the House debate, both Anderson and McCloery complained that the heavily Democratic makeup of the committee would make the inquiry look like a "partisan effort" bent on overlooking any sins of the CIA, the FBI and other agencies under the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

"We want a thorough job for Democratic administration as well as Republican," McCloery declared. "We don't want to have any cover-up of earlier activities. . . ."

Giammo, one of the spokesmen for the Democratic resolution creating the committee, denied any intent to use the inquiry for "partisan potshots" and predicted that the investigation would be even-handed.

"But we in the majority have an obligation and a responsibility to lead," Giammo added. He said this would be almost impossible with a committee divided down the middle with five Democrats and five Republicans.

Rep. William M. Brodhead (D-Mich.) said that "If the people wanted this House to be divided 50-50 between both parties, they would have voted that way" last fall. The House lineup is 289 Democrats, 145 Republicans, one vacancy.

The Senate created its own 11-member select committee on intelligence operations composed of six democrats and five Republicans last month. That panel's chairman, Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho), has indicated that he plans to meet with Nedzi shortly in hopes of reaching agreement on a "division of labors" and avoiding duplication of effort.

The House committee was directed to submit its final report by next Jan. 31. The Senate committee has a Sept. 1 deadline for its report, but the panel is still in the organizational stages and will probably have to seek an extension.

While Anderson's proposal for heavier GOP representation in the House inquiry was defeated, two other amendments he offered were accepted by the Democratic leadership and approved on voice vote.

One limits the House inquiry to a maximum budget of \$750,000, with no more than \$100,000 of that to be spent on outside consultants. The other calls for tight security precautions to prevent unauthorized disclosures of information and bars committee staff members from profiting with books, articles or speeches about the investigation.

Both the House and Senate inquiries were prompted by news reports and allegations of illegal and improper surveillance of American citizens and other abuses of power, both by the CIA and the FBI.

As one of those who pressed for the House investigation, Harrington had suggested that the chairmanship ought to go to a neutral third party rather than someone like Nedzi who was supposed to be overseeing CIA operations in the past. The House leadership, however, reportedly considers Nedzi a solid congressman and a possible counter-balance to Sen. Church.