

Kissinger Denies U.S. Death Plots

Washington

Secretary of State Henry S. Kissinger said yesterday after meeting with Senate investigators that he knows of no U.S. plots against the lives of foreign officials during his six years in government.

Kissinger met briefly with reporters following his first appearance before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, accompanied by its chairman, Senator Frank Church (Dem-Idaho).

Church said later the panel has "extended an invitation to former President Richard M. Nixon — whom Kissinger served as both national security adviser and secretary of state — to testify on alleged assassination plots. He said it appeared Nixon will decline.

But Church said the committee has subpoenaed Nixon documents which might relate to CIA activities in Chile during the period when he was President.

Kissinger said after his private session with the committee: "There was no policy to assassinate any foreign officials or leaders or any plot to assassinate any foreign leaders."

Meeting with reporters jammed into a small reception room, Kissinger sidestepped questions about multi-million-dollar aid the United States allegedly funneled through the CIA to opponents of Salvador Allende before and after his election as the first Marxist president in South America.

"There is no point here in reviewing any individual items," Kissinger said.

Allende was overthrown by a military coup Sept. 11, 1973, during which he either was killed or committed suicide.

Kissinger's testimony concluded the assassination phase of the committee's investigations.

The panel will now complete its report, adjourn and present the material to the Senate when Congress reconvenes next month.

At that time, the committee will turn to a wide variety of other CIA operations and those of other agencies in the intelligence community, including the FBI and the Defense Department.

Church commended Kissinger for appearing, and told reporters "his presence here should not be interpreted that he himself was ever involved in any plot to assassinate any foreign figure."

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