

Church Urges Senate to Reject Ford's Nomination of Bush as

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Intelligence Chief and Strongly Backs C.I.A.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11—Senator Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, urged the Senate today, in a speech that was a strong defense of the Central Intelligence Agency, to oppose the nomination of George Bush as Director of Central Intelligence.

Senator Church, who had previously announced that he would not vote to confirm President Ford's nomination of Mr. Bush to succeed William E. Colby, called on his colleagues to "stand up and oppose this nomination," terming it "ill-advised."

The Idaho Democrat, who is directing a Senate inquiry into intelligence operations that has now gone on for 10 months, spoke before a virtually empty chamber.

Two Support Choice

Several hours later Senators John G. Tower of Texas, the Republican vice chairman of the committee, and James L. Buckley, Conservative Republican of New York, told reporters that they backed the appointment of Mr. Bush, who is now United States representative to Peking. Mr. Buckley is not a committee member.

The 51-year-old Mr. Bush, Mr. Tower said, has the "right kind of instincts, the right kind of intellect, the right kind of character and the right personality" for the job.

Of the other members of Mr. Church's committee, Senators Walter D. Huddleston of Kentucky and Garv Hart of Colorado, both Democrats, had both said that they had reservations about the appointment of a man with such a strongly political background. Senators Walter F. Mondale of Minnesota, Philip A. Hart of Michigan and Robert B. Morgan of North Carolina, also Democrats have made no public statement.

Goldwater Supports Bush

Mr. Tower has been joined in his support for Mr. Bush by Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona. Senators Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee and Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania, both Republicans, were not expected to oppose Mr. Bush. Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Republican of Maryland, has made no public statement.

Mr. Church has said he hopes to call Mr. Bush to testify before the intelligence committee, though it is not formally part of the confirmation process. Hearings on Mr. Bush's nomination will be conducted by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

In his 45-minute address, Mr. Church devoted considerable

attention to what he viewed as the C.I.A.'s valuable functions, and disclosed that the intelligence community had been tracing the investment of funds paid to oil-producing nations, members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"Our intelligence agencies have been successful in tracking the flow of petrodollars worldwide and have alerted U.S. policy makers to significant changes in OPEC investment strategies," he said.

"In addition to comprehensive estimates on production, consumption and pricing, they have given us timely assessments on the strengths and weaknesses of OPEC as a cartel and the availability of alternative sources of energy."

Mr. Church stressed that the C.I.A.'s role in preparing objective intelligence estimates was not colored by its involvement in supporting the massive defense budget.

"One must view with some alarm the prospect of a silenced C.I.A. succumbing to an increasingly dominant military voice in calculating the foreign threat of our nation," he said. Citing the debate over the anti-ballistics missile several years ago, he said that the military had been "driven by its own policy considerations, based upon a 'worse case' analysis."

"The questions they asked themselves led to one answer: the need for a nationwide ABM system," he said. "The price tag would have been something like \$100 billion, a bonanza guaranteeing a bloated military budget for years to come."

"The C.I.A.," Mr. Church said, "had no policy ax to grind, and no pressures upon it to protect lucrative contracts," and thus gave Congress reliable information.

"However, it is not only a matter of standing up to the Pentagon," he said. "We need a C.I.A. that can resist all the partisan pressures which may be brought to bear by various groups inside and outside government."

He said that he did not believe Mr. Bush would be able to stand up to the President in an election year should the C.I.A.'s analysis of a given situation be different from President Ford's.

No Personal Animosity

Mr. Church said that his criticism of Mr. Bush's credentials was not personal. "I find

him a personal friend of mine," Mr. Church said. "There are many political offices he could hold with distinction." But, Mr. Church said, the Director of

Central Intelligence was not one of them.

"Let us not undermine the good work of the Rockefeller commission [which investigated the intelligence community] and the [intelligence-investigating] committees of the House and Senate by placing a former party chairman at the head of a highly sensitive intelligence agency," Mr. Church said.

Mr. Bush was chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1973 and 1974.

Meanwhile, Mr. Church's committee moved toward turning over its report on C.I.A. involvement in political assassinations abroad to the Senate. At this juncture it is expected that the report might go to the Senate early next week.

Testimony on Castro Plots

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11 (AP)—The former assistant counsel of the Warren Commission said today that information about C.I.A. plots to kill Prime Minister Fidel Castro of Cuba would have broadened the panel's investigation of the 1963 assassination of President Kennedy.

David W. Belin, who was also executive director of the Rockefeller commission, said in sworn testimony that the vice president's panel investigating the spy agency had developed the information about plots to kill foreign leaders, particularly Mr. Castro.

But he said that the information had never made available to the Warren Commission, although Allen W. Dulles, then the Director of Central Intelligence, served on the commission.

A wider inquiry could have led the commission into expanded consideration of the theory that Mr. Castro had been involved in the Kennedy assassination or that Lee Harvey Oswald, whom the Warren Commission said acted alone in killing Mr. Kennedy, had been motivated by plots to kill the Cuban leader, whom he reportedly admired.

Mr. Belin's acknowledgement

of the Rockefeller commission's information on the C.I.A.'s connection with plotting on Mr. Castro's life was the first such sworn statement made by a Rockefeller commission official in public. It was brought out during questioning before the House Government Operations Subcommittee on Information and Individual rights.