

Church Bids Kissinger Testify in Public on Chile

By Laurence Stern
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Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho) yesterday challenged Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to amplify his public defense earlier this week of CIA covert operations by testifying publicly next week on secret U.S. political operations in Chile.

"If the secretary can give public speeches in defense of covert action, I believe the secretary can answer the questions before the Congress and the American people," Church, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, said yesterday.

Kissinger declined Church's invitation to appear in open session on covert activity in Chile in a Nov. 20 letter to the senator. "I believe it would be wholly inappropriate for an incumbent Secretary of State to appear in an open session to

discuss, even on an unclassified basis, any real or purported covert operation of the United States government," Kissinger wrote.

In a speech to the Detroit Economic Club on Monday, Kissinger decried what he called the "self-flagellation which has done so much harm to this nation's capacity to conduct foreign policy" and called for an end to "the delusion that American intelligence activities are immoral."

Lagos Probe Told Of Bloody Oath

LAGOS, Nigeria, Nov. 26—Four members of a cement hoarding syndicate licked one another's blood while swearing an oath to be honest to each other in their bid to secure and execute cement contracts, a special tribunal heard here.

The administration is, in effect, boycotting the Church hearings set for Dec. 4 and 5.

The hearings are expected to provide a rare glimpse of covert CIA political operations abroad — activities that in the recent past were not even described in private to congressional overseers of U.S. intelligence agencies.

"Considering the fact that the committee has taken the utmost precautions to protect sensitive sources of intelligence, methods of intelligence operations, and the names of agents...there is no merit to the charge that a public hearing on Chile will damage American interests," Church said.

CIA Director William E. Colby also wrote Church to decline the invitation to appear next week "in view of the President's decision that this agency should not par-



SEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY
...disavows move

ticipate..." Colby added that that public discussions of covert intelligence operations "are not in the best interests of American national security."

Both Kissinger and Colby agreed to appear before the Church panel in closed session, a condition Church rejected.