

Kennedy and Thurmond Clash In Angry Debate Over Douglas

By United Press International

WASHINGTON, June 9—Senators Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina, debated angrily today over Associate Justice William O. Douglas of the Supreme Court.

Senator Thurmond demanded that Justice Douglas resign because of his off-the-bench activities.

Senator Kennedy asked Mr. Thurmond to cite an instance—"just one example"—of improper conduct by Justice Douglas.

The debate started as Senator Thurmond was delivering a prepared speech on Justice Douglas's association with the Parvin Foundation and the foundation's support of the Inter-American Center for Economic and Social Studies.

Mr. Thurmond said the center was a "socialist" organization that had slurred the United States during the Dominican Revolution.

Senator Thurmond mentioned José Figueres as a member of the center, but he stumbled over pronunciation of the name. Mr. Figueres is a former president of Costa Rica, where the center was located.

Senator Kennedy interrupted Mr. Thurmond with the correct Spanish pronunciation. This appeared to infuriate Mr. Thurmond.

"Are you holding yourself out as an expert? Are you correcting my English?" Senator Thurmond asked. "What was your record at Harvard?"

This was an apparent allusion

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to Senator Kennedy's involvement in a cribbing incident while he was a Harvard undergraduate. It quieted Mr. Kennedy for a moment.

Then he interrupted Mr. Thurmond again to ask for specific citations of wrongdoing by Justice Douglas.

"If the Senator will keep quiet and listen for a few minutes he might learn something," Senator Thurmond retorted. He then repeated that Justice Douglas was chairman of the Parvin Foundation which, he said, along with the Central Intelligence Agency, supported the center financially.

"I call upon him again to resign as an Associate Justice," Senator Thurmond shouted.

Participation Queried

"Will the Senator give us some idea of Douglas's participation in the center?" Senator Kennedy asked.

"He took an active part in the center. He was chairman of the foundation," Mr. Thurmond yelled back.

"What possible discredit could that bring on Douglas?" Did he go down there [to Costa Rica] and lecture?" Mr. Kennedy inquired.

"Douglas is a Supreme Court Justice. And he's going out everywhere and making speeches. He's chairman of the Par-

vin Foundation. In my opinion he ought to stay out of those things," Senator Thurmond said.

Senator Kennedy replied that for "four or five hundred years judges have been encouraged to have some association with events of their time.

"We can't have them isolated from issues in our society. We should not condemn Justices because we disagree with them."

Senator Thurmond answered that Mr. Kennedy could defend Justice Douglas if he wanted to.

'Other Speeches to Make'

"I shall have other speeches to make about him," Mr. Thurmond said. "It's perfectly ridiculous [for Justices] to serve on boards of foundations that might have come before the Supreme Court. It was wrong for Douglas to accept \$90,000 from the Parvin foundation and \$500 a day from the center for Democratic Institutions. All these things are calculated to entwine him in things he might have to pass on."

"He ought to be ashamed to stay on the Court!"

"Give us one example, just one example, of a case where Douglas was involved that he later had to decide," Senator Kennedy said.

"The Parvin Foundation may well end up in court yet," Senator Thurmond replied.