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Kissinger Under Attack By House Foreign Panel

By BENJAMIN WELLES

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 — Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's assistant for national security, came under severe criticism today from members of Congress who accused him of pre-empting the State Department's traditional role in formulating United States foreign policy.

Representative Wayne L. Hays, Democrat of Ohio, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on State Department Organization and Foreign Operations, charged that Mr. Kissinger had "taken over the policymaking functions of the State Department."

"He and his ever-growing National Security Council staff are making policy," Mr. Hays charged. "He's flown off on 12 or 14 secret trips. He's got a string of 25 or 30 starlets he takes out. He seems to pack 36 hours into every day where the rest of us have only 24."

Mr. Hays's comments came as William B. Macomber Jr., deputy Under Secretary of State for Management, appeared before the subcommittee to ask authorization for a \$563.4-million budget for the department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973.

Double Approval Needed

This was the first time that the department has been obliged to seek authorization from Congress for its annual operating budget as well as requesting appropriations of the funds themselves.

The new requirement results from an amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1971, sponsored by J. W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Fulbright has long sought

to make the State Department as responsive to the two Congressional committees principally involved with foreign policy as it has traditionally been to the two appropriations committees whose members are normally less versed in foreign affairs.

Much of Mr. Fulbright's insistence has been based on mounting irritation over Mr. Kissinger's persistent unwillingness to testify before Congress — except in strict privacy and informally. From the tone of remarks made at the hearings, the Senator's irritation appears to be shared by several senior members of the House subcommittee.

Would Restore 'Primacy'

Subcommittee members repeatedly called on Mr. Macomber to help strengthen the State Department's "primacy" in foreign policy and, by implication, to stave off what many called the National Security Council's inroads into the foreign policy process.

Representative John Buchanan, Republican of Alabama, asserted that the State Department had "declined in power and prestige." Representative Donald M. Fraser, Democrat of Minnesota, called on the department to upgrade its role in political and military affairs to offset what he termed the Defense Department's "scare" tactics.

"I've become a great defender of the Central Intelligence Agency in recent years," Mr. Fraser said, "because every time I get briefed on strategic weaponry the C.I.A. gives the impression of being more-balanced and objective than the Pentagon. The Pentagon is always trying to scare you. They always put forward the worst imaginable case."