

U.S.I.A. Aide, Critic of Fulbright, Quits

By JOHN W. FINNEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 3 — Bruce Herschensohn, who recently accused Senator J. W. Fulbright of having "very naive and stupid" views, resigned abruptly today as director of the United States Information Agency's motion picture and television division.

In a letter to Frank Shakespeare, who is the agency's director, the 39-year-old official said he was resigning partly to spare the agency political harm and partly so he could speak out publicly against "the great injury" that he contended

Senator Fulbright was causing the nation.

Within hours after his resignation from his \$36,000-a-year post became effective, Mr. Herschensohn called a news conference at the National Press Club to renew his criticism of Senator Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

He accused Senator Fulbright of having "left-of-center" foreign policy views and charged that the Senator was trying to "downgrade" the United States Information Agency in a way that "could be tragic for this nation and catastrophic for the people of other nations."

Mr. Herschensohn, director of the motion picture and television service since January, 1968, was regarded in the agency as a talented movie producer with decidedly conservative views.

He became embroiled in controversy last week when, in a taped television interview with Senator James L. Buckley, Conservative Republican of New York, he accused Senator Fulbright of having "a very simplistic, very naive and stupid view" on the value of United States propaganda efforts.

In a statement read at his news conference, Mr. Herschensohn stood by his views, saying that they "were inappropriate words, but they were accurate." He went on "and under the circumstances, as I know them to be, they were kind."

Mr. Herschensohn appeared on Senator Buckley's television program without the knowledge of Mr. Shakespeare, and his statements about Senator Fulbright—made at a time when the information agency's budget was under review by the Foreign Relations Committee—caused considerable political embarrassment to agency officials. Last week Mr. Shakespeare sent a letter of apology to Senator Fulbright for Mr. Herschensohn's comments.

According to agency officials, Mr. Herschensohn was not forced to resign but did so at his own volition over Mr. Shakespeare's objections.