

HARD QUESTIONING OF KISSINGER SEEN

Symington Doubts Approval
if Privilege Prevails

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 23—

Statements today by several members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee indicated that Henry A. Kissinger might face far tougher questioning in hearings on his nomination as Secretary of State than was initially indicated.

Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri, issued a statement saying: "If there is any question about his additional work in the White House giving him executive privilege, a position he has taken in the past, I do not believe the committee will confirm him." In announcing the nomination yesterday, President Nixon said Mr. Kissinger would retain his past as adviser on national security.

Mr. Symington joined Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, in saying that the wiretapping of members of the National Security Council authorized by Mr. Kissinger would also be a subject of questioning.

The statements were made before Mr. Kissinger's news conference.

The wiretapping issue is especially sensitive for committee members since it was learned that one of 17 taps arranged by the White House was applied to the lines of Richard Moose, now a consultant to the Foreign Relations Committee, when he was a member of the National Security Council staff under Mr. Kissinger.

Hearings Due Shortly

There is a strong feeling among Senate aides and the committee staff that the wiretapping matter must be explored in the hearings, expected to begin about two weeks.

At his news conference today in San Clemente, Calif., Mr. Kissinger showed awareness of Senate concern on wiretapping and executive privilege and added that he intended to discuss them in the hearings.

He also disclosed that he went to the trouble of trying to telephone 17 members of the committee yesterday after his appointment was announced.

Washington aides of Senator traveling in Asia, Africa and Europe cast doubt on Mr. Kissinger's report that he had talked with "everyone" on the committee. Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York, for example, was in Kenya; Charles Percy, Republican of Illinois, was in India, and Claiborne Pell, Democrat of Rhode Island, was in Switzerland.

The only Senator overseas to confirm a call from Mr. Kissinger was Hugh Scott, the Pennsylvania Republican, who was in London. He said he offered Mr. Kissinger "cooperation and strong support."

Fulbright Backing Reported

Senator J. W. Fulbright, the Foreign Relations Committee's reportedly told Mr. Kissinger in his home state, Arkansas, chairman, who was canvassing that he would approve the nomination, and he did not indicate concern about wiretapping.

The majority of the committee members appeared inclined to approve Mr. Kissinger's appointment.

From Lava Hot Springs, Idaho, Senator Frank Church, a Democrat, said: "It is time for the de facto Secretary of State to be made de jure."

Describing Mr. Kissinger as "a personal friend," he voiced the opinion that "his installation as Secretary of State will raise morale at the State Department."

According to White House officials, Mr. Kissinger has prepared several lines of argument that he hopes will disarm the committee at least on wiretapping.

The issue of executive privilege could cause difficulty for Mr. Kissinger in terms of his immunity as the President's national adviser in the last three and a half years.

Senator Symington said he intended to question Mr. Kissinger about "the secret war in Southeast Asia conducted in the main not only without the approval of Congress but also without the knowledge of Congress."