

FILE DESTRUCTION BY C.I.A. REJECTED

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Senate's Intelligence Panel
to Keep 100,000 Records
Despite Bush's Plea

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WASHINGTON, June 7—The new Senate Intelligence Committee will retain and review 100,000 classified intelligence documents, despite a Central Intelligence Agency plea that the agency be allowed to resume the routine destruction of outdated files, it was announced today.

The request was made last Wednesday by George Bush, the Director of Central Intelligence, in a letter addressed to Senators Mike Mansfield of Montana and Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, the majority and minority leaders.

Mr. Bush noted that the predecessor of the Senate Intelligence Committee, the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities, completed its legislative lifetime June 1. Therefore, he said, "it is our intention to proceed with destruction of records."

Senators Issue Demand

Mr. Bush wrote to Senators Mansfield and Scott because they demanded last Jan. 27 that the Federal Government's intelligence agencies "not destroy" any records, pending completion of the select committee's investigation into intelligence activities.

As a result, the agency halted its normal destruction operations in its McLean, Va., headquarters. The destruction, as at virtually all other major government agencies, is done to get rid of unnecessary files. In the C.I.A. case this applied also to "ordinary administrative files," an agency spokesman said.

A spokesman for the new intelligence committee, which was formally constituted June 1 under Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Democrat of Hawaii, said that the select committee had already returned a large number of documents lent it by the agency for its investigation.

What remains, he said, are 45 file cases containing documents supplied by the C.I.A., the National Security Council, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Discussions Held

After informal discussions between the Inouye committee and Senator Mansfield, it was decided that the new intelligence committee might want to retain some of the C.I.A. documents for its permanent classified records as a basis for future recommendations to the executive branch on intelligence matters.

As a result, the Mansfield-Scott order to delay the file destruction is being continued.

A committee spokesman said the new committee also might decide to keep some C.I.A. files as documentary proof of the findings of the select committee on the evolution of American intelligence activities.

Among these, he said, might be documents relating the 95-page history of the agency prepared under select committee auspices and released to the public in the form of a final report today.