

# Senate may give Sorensen the boot

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The nomination of Theodore Sorensen to head the Central Intelligence Agency appears to be running into serious, possibly fatal, trouble.

Senate majority leader Robert Byrd said yesterday, without elaborating, that he believes Sorensen's chances of confirmation are questionable.

A newspaper reported the Kennedy administration aide had admitted, in a 1972 affidavit, taking classified government documents, using them to write a book and donating them to the National Archives in return for a tax break.

A conservative political group, expected to lead the opposition at Sorensen's confirmation hearings, said the Carter nominee would be a "disaster" as CIA director.

President-elect Carter, attending a barbecue yesterday in Plains, Ga., refused to answer questions about Byrd's assessment.

Sorensen's confirmation hearings begin tomorrow before the Senate Intelligence Committee, headed by Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii.

Byrd, who last week said he thought all of Carter's nominees would win Senate confirmation, retreated yesterday.

He said he would "reserve final judgment" on the chances of former federal Judge Griffin Bell to win confirmation as attorney general. Some civil rights groups and black leaders have accused Bell of helping Southern states resist compliance with desegregation orders in the 1950s and 1960s and have challenged his record on other civil rights issues.

"As of now," Byrd said, "I think he will be confirmed."

But as for Sorensen, he said, "I wouldn't be willing to say that..."



**THEODORE SORENSEN**  
Confirmation 'questionable'

"I consider his nomination to be in considerable difficulty. His chances are, at this point, questionable."

Byrd refused to comment on reasons for opposition to the 48-year-old lawyer, who served as Kennedy's chief speechwriter, idea man and confidant.

But many senators of both parties last week expressed concern about his registering for the draft in 1946 as a conscientious objector, his lack of experience in intelligence and his relationship with the Kennedys — especially his role in advising Sen. Edward Kennedy after the car wreck at Chappaquiddick in 1969.

The Long Island, N.Y., newspaper Newsday reported yesterday that Inouye had given members of his committee copies of an affidavit Sorensen filed in the 1972 Pentagon

papers case on behalf of defendant Daniel Ellsberg.

Newsday said the affidavit confirmed Sorensen "took seven cartons of classified material from White House files and later, without permission, used the information to write a book about President Kennedy.

"He received a tax break for donating the classified material as his own property to the National Archives," the paper said.

"He repeatedly leaked classified information to the news media and used secret information to write speeches when he served at the White House."

Francis McNamara, who will testify against Sorensen on behalf of the American Conservative Union, said his foreign affairs experience is "limited to serving as legal adviser for Joseph Mobutu of the Congo and also as U.S. agent for Sierra Leone, Iran and Newfoundland."

He said Sorensen's confirmation "would be a disaster for the intelligence community and for the United States."

## Young's Africa stance

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Andrew Young, U.S. ambassador-designate to the United Nations, said yesterday he believes that President-elect Carter is pledged to use "whatever assistance we can" for a peaceful transition to a multiracial society in southern Africa.

Because he experienced the "racial turbulence" of the American South, Young said, Carter has "a better understanding of race problems than probably any president we've had before."