

# Ruckelshaus Confirmed For Justice Dept. Post

## Washington

The Senate confirmed William D. Ruckelshaus as deputy attorney general yesterday shortly after its Judiciary Committee unanimously approved his nomination.

The Senate acted by voice vote.

Only words of praise were expressed for the selection of Ruckelshaus for the No. 2 post in the Justice Department.

Ruckelshaus, a former Indiana legislator, has served in the Nixon administration since early in 1969, when he was appointed an assistant attorney general.

## FBI

He was administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from December 1970 until April 27 of this year, when President Nixon named him acting director of the FBI after the resignation of L. Patrick Gray III.

Ruckelshaus won high marks from members of both parties during the committee hearings for his openness and the way he has handled his government assignments.

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. (Dem.-N.C.), a member of the Judiciary Committee and chairman of the Senate Watergate committee, told Ruckelshaus, "You have done a magnificent job in everything you've been assigned to."

"I have supreme confidence in your ability and integrity," Ervin added.

## BILL

Earlier, in response to questions from Senator Robert C. Byrd (Dem.-W. Va.), Ruckelshaus testified he fa-

vors a bill introduced by Byrd that would provide a ten-year term for the director of the FBI.

The bill would allow appointment to a second ten-year term subject to reconfirmation by the Senate.

Ruckelshaus said a fixed tenure for the FBI chief, who now serves at the pleasure of the President, would give him a good deal of insulation from political pressures.

Ruckelshaus also applauded the Judiciary Committee's recent appointment of a special subcommittee to oversee FBI operations.

"Congress should have a larger role in giving guidelines on precisely what role the FBI ought to play," Ruckelshaus said.

## REVIEW

Among things that need careful review, he said, are the FBI's domestic intelligence-gathering and whether this should be separated from its law enforcement function.

Ruckelshaus said, however, he does not favor another bill of Byrd's that would make the FBI an independent agency outside the Justice Department.

Ruckelshaus said he thinks the present setup is most likely to strike a balance between having an FBI director who is too independent and one who is too responsive to political pressures.

Ruckelshaus said that recent concern has centered on the FBI director being overly responsive to the White House while many felt in past years the director was too independent.

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