

Kissinger

Statement
On Plumbers

Washington

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger yesterday gave the Senate Foreign Relations Committee a further explanation of his relationship with the "plumber" with David Young, one of his former staffers who is now under indictment.

Appearing before the committee to discuss the recently concluded disengagement agreement between Israel and Egypt, the secretary volunteered an almost hour-long statement about Young and his probe of "leaks" from the National Security Council.

Remarks Kissinger made in his press conference last week have raised questions about whether his admission that he had a tap of a Young interrogation of Admiral Robert A. Welner conflicted with testimony he gave during his confirmation hearing that he was unaware of the existence of the so-called plumber unit of Young's activities.

"I'm satisfied with his statement," Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman J. William Fulbright (Dem-Ark.), said after the closed hearing. Fulbright said Kissinger's statement will be released later in the week after it is "sanitized."

Fulbright said Kissinger had discussed the recent Middle East negotiations at length. "All of us are very encouraged by the progress made toward a settlement of the Middle East conflict," Fulbright said.

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