

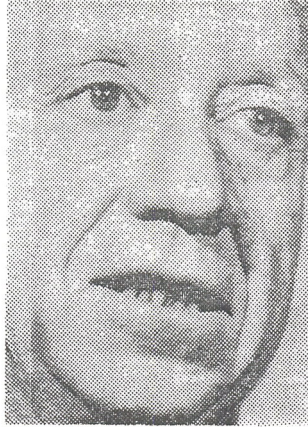
# Senators Agree to

Washington

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee unanimously agreed yesterday to accept Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's request for a review of his testimony on national security wiretaps.

As a number of Democrats and Republicans on the committee and elsewhere in Congress expressed support for Kissinger and urged him not to resign, the committee reacted quickly to a letter from the Secretary of State seeking the review. Kissinger had given the testimony during his confirmation hearings before the committee last September.

"The inuendos which now imply that new evidence contradicting my testimony has come to light are without foundation," Kissinger said in his letter, which was



Jacob Javits



Hubert Humphrey



Edmund S. Muskie

dated Monday, the day he left Washington with President Nixon on the President's nine-day trip to the Middle East.

Kissinger said he had no reason to change his testimony "in any particular" but added that "at this sen-

sitive period I feel it important that the committee which first examined the evidence, and which has a special concern with the conduct of foreign affairs, should have an opportunity to review it once again."

The Secretary said he

would not object if the committee wanted "to examine relevant security files and reports on wiretaps sent to my office" and said he stood ready "to appear at any time."

Senator J. William Fulbright (Dem.-Ark.), chair-

# Kissinger Request

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★★ Wed., June 12, 1974



J. William Fulbright

man of the Foreign Relations Committee, said he did not yet know how or when the committee would proceed with its review.

Fulbright and Senator Edmund S. Muskie (Dem.-Maine), who is chairman of a foreign relations subcom-

mittee on surveillance, said that the Justice Department had up to now declined to provide the committee with documents on how the 17 wiretaps of government officials and newsmen beginning in 1969 had been authorized.

"We are going to renew that request," Fulbright said.

Committee aides said the Justice Department last month declined to furnish the information because of a pending lawsuit brought against Kissinger and others by Morton Halperin, a former member of the staff of the National Security Council whose phone was among those known to have been wiretapped.

The aides stressed that the committee was not seeking transcripts of the wiretaps themselves but the docu-

mentation that had authorized the taps as part of the committee's continuing investigation of surveillance activities.

Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont, the 81-year-old ranking Republican on the committee, read a news bulletin of Kissinger's remarks and said to a reporter: "The damned fool — can't he take it? Why that's part of the business, being criticized."

But Mike Mansfield, Democrat of Montana and the Senate Majority Leader, disclosed to reporters that Kissinger had told him last Saturday and Sunday that he was seriously considering resigning and was considering not accompanying Mr. Nixon on the trip to the Middle East.

"I urged him not to resign. I said the country

needed him," Mansfield said.

Last September two members of the committee, Senator John J. Sparkman (Dem.-Ala.) and Clifford P. Case (Rep.-N.J.) reviewed FBI summaries of the 17 wiretaps and had concluded that Kissinger's role in the wiretapping "was not such as to bar him from confirmation" as secretary of state.

Members of the committee had questioned Kissinger as recently as last Friday about the wiretaps and he repeatedly denied that he had initiated the wiretapping.

While the committee agreed to review the matter yesterday, it was apparent that Kissinger continued to have substantial support in Congress.

New York Times