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Scott Vows to Stay Until His Term Ends

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Without revealing whether he plans to run for re-election next year, Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) told the Republican Policy Committee Tuesday that he doesn't intend to resign before his current term ends to become U.S. representative in China or anywhere else.

Scott, being toasted on his 75th birthday at the private luncheon, was quoted by senators as saying that an early resignation would enable Gov. Milton Shapp to name a Democrat as his Senate successor through the end of 1976.

That would widen the Democratic margin in the Senate to 63-to-37 for the remainder of the present Congress, would probably require the realignment of

some committees to give Democrats more seats and Republicans fewer, and would give the Democrats a head start in the 1976 election.

It could also unleash a fight within the Senate GOP over a successor to Scott as leader, with John Tower (Tex.) and Whip Robert P. Griffin (Mich.) the leading contenders, and the liberals likely to push someone like Robert T. Stafford (Vt.) or James B. Pearson (Kan.).

Scott has repeatedly said he will announce on Dec. 4, at a GOP function in Pittsburgh, whether he plans to run for a new six-year term. There has been considerable speculation that, facing a tough re-election fight in an increasingly Democratic state, he might choose to step aside and go to China as chief of U.S. Liaison Office in Peking.