

New CIA Boss OK'd

By Senate Committee

Washington

The Senate Armed Services Committee approved the nomination of William E. Colby to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency by voice vote yesterday after several weeks of close questioning.

Colby, was the third-ranking official in the CIA hierarchy when President Nixon named him to succeed James R. Schlesinger, now Defense Secretary.

Senator Harold Hughes (Dem-Iowa) asked to be recorded as opposing the nomination on the condition he could change his mind after reading the hearing record.

Although the confirmation hearings were held in private, reports by senators who attended indicated Colby underwent extensive interrogation about the investigation of CIA involvement in the Watergate affair and Colby's direction of the highly controversial Phoenix program in South Vietnam.

A CIA official since 1962, Colby in 1968 headed U.S. support for Saigon's drive to rid the South Vietnamese countryside of Viet Cong guerrillas and their supporters through political conversion but sometimes by assassination.

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