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INSIDE REPORT

RELEASE SUNDAY, JAN. 18, 1981

BY ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK

BIRCH BAYH'S REWARD

WASHINGTON -- FORMER SEN. BIRCH BAYH, THE DEFEATED EX-CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE AND HAIRSHIRT OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA), WAS GIVEN THE CIA'S HIGHEST AWARD IN AN UNANNOUNCED, CLOSED-DOOR CEREMONY IN ADM. STANSFIELD TURNER'S PRIVATE DINING ROOM DEC. 18.

THIS WAS CIA DIRECTOR TURNER'S REWARD FOR BAYH'S ROLE IN HELPING MAKE DANGEROUS CUTS IN THE AGENCY'S CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS. CONSIDERED AN ENEMY BY PROFESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS, BAYH QUIETLY BACKED TURNER'S FIRST MAJOR MOVE AT THE CIA: PRUNING LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF ''SPIES'' FROM THE PAYROLL.

BAYH ALSO HELPED TURNER BLOCK ATTACKS BY CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE. THE REWARD WAS THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL, GIVEN ONLY ONCE BEFORE TO ANY MEMBER OF CONGRESS. WILLIAM MILLER, BAYH'S TOP COMMITTEE AIDE AND ANOTHER CIA HAIRSHIRT, WAS HONORED AT THE SAME LUNCHEON WITH THE CIA'S SEAL MEDALLION, A LESSER AWARD.

NO. 2 IN SIGHT

PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN'S HOPE FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, HIS OLD FRIEND WILLIAM PATRICK CLARK, HAS RUN INTO SEVERE PROBLEMS ON THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE BASED ON ONE POINT: CLARK'S POLITICAL CONSERVATISM.

PUBLICLY, LIBERAL DEMOCRATS ON THE COMMITTEE COMPLAIN THAT CLARK, NOW A CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, LACKS EXPERIENCE TO BE NO. 2 AT STATE. BUT THAT DID NOT HURT DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER, A LOS ANGELES LAWYER WHO [illegible]

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