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BUSH-SORENSEN LEAD
BY RICHARD PYLE

WASHINGTON (AP) -- CIA DIRECTOR GEORGE BUSH DISAGREED TODAY WITH THEODORE C. SORENSENS CONTENTION THAT THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE DENIED HIM SUPPORT AS BUSHS SUCCESSOR IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION BECAUSE HE IS AN OUTSIDER.

I WAS AN OUTSIDER ... AND IM NOT EGOTISTICAL ENOUGH TO THINK THAT EVERYBODY IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY BELIEVES AS I BELIEVE, BUSH SAID. BUT AS AN OUTSIDER, I WAS GIVEN FANTASTIC SUPPORT, AND THE DISCIPLINE AND INTEGRITY OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IS SUCH THAT IT WILL SUPPORT ITS DIRECTOR.

AT A NEWS BRIEFING IN GEORGIA, JIMMY CARTERS SPOKESMAN DENIED A PUBLISHED REPORT THAT THE PRESIDENT-ELECT URGED SORENSEN TO BOW OUT AS THE NOMINEE TO HEAD THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

THE SPOKESMAN, PRESS SECRETARY JODY POWELL, INSISTED THAT SORENSEN MADE THE DECISION ON HIS OWN AFTER HE AND CARTER DISCUSSED STRONG OPPOSITION TO HIS NOMINATION THAT HAD DEVELOPED IN THE SENATE.

POWELL SAID HE WAS AWARE OF REPORTS THAT CARTER IS CONSIDERING BILL D. MOYERS, A KEY WHITE HOUSE AIDE IN THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION, AND PAUL WARNKE, A FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, TO SUBSTITUTE FOR SORENSEN.

HOWEVER, POWELL SAID CARTER HAS YET TO MAKE A DECISION AND WILL NOT ANNOUNCE A CHOICE BEFORE NEXT WEEK.

OTHER NAMES IN PUBLISHED REPORTS ABOUT A POSSIBLE SORENSEN SUCCESSOR HAVE BEEN THOMAS L. HUGHES, A RETIRED FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, AND RAY S. CLINE, WHO SUCCEEDED HUGHES IN 1969 AS DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENTS BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH.

HUGHES WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. CLINE SAID HE, HUGHES, WARNKE AND FORMER CIA DIRECTOR JAMES SCHLESINGER WERE LISTED AS POSSIBILITIES FOR THE POST BEFORE CARTER CHOSE SORENSEN. SINCE THEN, CARTER HAS NAMED SCHLESINGER TO HEAD THE ADMINISTRATIONS EFFORT TO DEVELOP AND CONSERVE ENERGY. /

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CLINE SAID HE HAS NOT TALKED TO CARTER OR HIS INTELLIGENCE AIDES RECENTLY. IM NOT SEEKING THE JOB, HE ADDED. ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD TAKE THE JOB IF IT WERE OFFERED, HE REPLIED: I DONT KNOW; I DOUBT IT.

CLINE IS CURRENTLY DIRECTOR OF STUDIES AT THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES.

SORENSEN, ONE-TIME SENIOR ADVISER TO PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, WITHDREW FROM CONSIDERATION FOR THE CIA POST ON MONDAY, SAYING HE COULD NOT SERVE EFFECTIVELY BECAUSE TOO MANY PERSONS IN THE INTELLIGENCE FIELD OPPOSED HIS VIEWS ON HOW THE AGENCY SHOULD BE RUN.

BUSH, LEAVING A BRIEFING OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, TOLD REPORTERS HE WOULD HAVE TO DISAGREE THAT SORENSEN WOULD NOT HAVE HAD SUPPORT FROM THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

HE NOTED THAT SORENSEN, DESPITE COMPLAINING ABOUT RESISTANCE TO HIS VIEWS, HAD BEEN VERY HIGH IN PRAISE OF THE SUPPORT HE GOT FROM PEOPLE AT THE CIA WHILE HE WAS A CANDIDATE FOR THE DIRECTORS POST.

BUSH RECALLED THAT HE HAD GONE TO THE CIA HIMSELF AS A RATHER CONTROVERSIAL NOMINEE BECAUSE OF HIS BACKGROUND AS A REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN AND WITH NO OTHER EXPERIENCE EXCEPT DIPLOMATIC POSTS IN CHINA AND AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

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