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Helms' Indictment Over Testimony Reported Near

NEW YORK, Sept. 19 (AP)—The administrative director of a legal defense fund for FBI agents said today he has been told by "the highest sources" that former Central Intelligence Agency Director Richard Helms will soon be indicted.

Marvin Liebman of the Ad Hoc Citizens' Legal Defence Fund for the FBI made the comment in response to a query about a statement former Treasury Secretary William E. Simon issued on behalf of the group today promising money for Helms' legal defense for his "possible indictment."

A subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has recommended perjury charges be filed against Helms for his 1973 testimony on CIA activities in Chile.

"I have heard from the highest sources that the indictment of Helms, which had been pending, would be handed up," Liebman said. "We don't say anything about the legal thing. We just want these guys to have the best defense possible."

Simon, in a telephone interview, denied being privy to secret information that a Helms indictment was forthcoming. But he said the ad hoc committee decided last Thursday "if that happened that we would expand our scope to cover that as well."

In January, 1975, in secret testimony, Helms admitted he withheld from Senate committees some information about CIA work in Chile and withheld information about the Nixon administration's desire to have the Marxist government of Salvadore Allende overthrown.