McCarthy Has Doubts On McCone for CIA

By The Associated Press

Senator McCarthy, Democrat of Minnesota, said today he is not sure John A. McCone has the qualifications to head the Central Intelligence Agency.

President Kennedy recently named Mr. McCone, who served in various capacities in both the Truman and Eisenhower administrations, to succeed Allen W. Dulles as director of the CIA.

Since Mr. McCone's appointment was made after Congress adjourned, he will serve under a recess appointment until and if confirmed by the Senate after Congress reconvenes.

"There is nothing particular to recommend Mr. McCone as director of the CIA," Senator McCarthy said. "They lay down five or six qualifications for director of the CIA and I do not know if he has those qualifications."

Qualifications Unspecified

Sen. McCarthy did not specify what particular qualifications he might have in mind.

In any case, he said, he would like to have various questions put to McCone when his nomination is considered by a Senate committee.

Under President Truman, Mr. McCone served as a member of the President's Air Policy Commission, as deputy to the Secretary of Defense, and as Undersecretary of the Air Force. Under President Eisenhower, he served for a time as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Senator McCarthy said some of the actions that McCone took as chairman of the AEC "raised some doubts in my mind".

Senator McCarthy has been urging creation of a joint Senate-House committee to keep a check on the CIA.

Senator for Supervision

Even though the CIA is a super-secret intelligence agency, Senator McCarthy said there is a need to have its actions under congressional supervision.

"Congress can be trusted," he said.

If there had been such a committee, Senator McCarthy said, it would have had knowledge in advance of the ill-fated Cuban invasion last spring.

"Such a committee," he said, "would have at least a part in arriving at such a decision as the Cuban invasion.

"If there was a serious question as to whether such a decision was wise, the members of the committee could have made it a public issue.

"In any case, Senator McCarthy said, "We would have known after it occurred just who was responsible for it."