

1 Feb. 1954

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Office of Legislative Counsel

Monday - 1 February 1954

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1. Mr. Burrus, of the Bureau of the Budget, has called our attention to S. 2308, a bill which authorizes the investigation by the Attorney General in any department or agency of offenses such as bribery, fraud, false claims, theft, etc. This legislation was originally introduced to authorize the Department of Justice to investigate certain frauds in the Treasury Department heretofore allowed to be handled by the Treasury Department itself. However, as Justice has considerably broadened the intent of the bill without prior consultation with Treasury, a bitter controversy has ensued between them. They have been unable to get together, and the special subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, consisting of Senators Langer, Dirksen and McClelland, have indicated that so much time has gone by that they propose to arbitrate the bill rather than leave it with the Bureau of the Budget. The Bureau of the Budget is making one last plea to the Committee to be permitted to try to arbitrate, but the present plan is for Mr. Collins, the Judiciary Committee staff man involved, to have a policy conference with Treasury, Justice, Commerce, CIA and Post Office to see what can be developed. Assistant Secretary Chapman Rose, of Treasury, and Assistant Attorney General Rankin are handling the matter for their departments, and Mr. Houston and I will follow through on this matter if it is determined that the bill will hamper CIA to the degree that a first look would indicate.

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