Panel Votes For Disclosure Of Total Intelligence Budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Intelligence Committee wants the nation's entire intelligence budget disclosed, despite Atty. Gen. Griffin B. Bell's opinion that the Constitution does not require it.

The committee's decision by a 8-7 vote may indicate how closely the proposal will be fought when it comes before the full Senate sometime after mid-June.

The one-vote margin "reflects rather precisely" what is likely to happen when it does, said Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, chairman of the panel.

Traditionally, the intelligence budget has been concealed in appropriations for other agencies, primarily the Pentagon.

Three former CIA directors said last month they feared that publishing any budget figure would trigger demands for additional disclosures about intelligence operations and their costs.

One of the three, Richard Helms, also said a total figure would mean little to the public, but would help foreign experts who try to analyze what the United States spends on different kinds of intelligence-gathering.

Ford Asks State Funds To Construct Museum

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Gerald R. Ford has returned home to ask state legislators to help him get funds to build a Gerald R. Ford museum.

The former president met with key lawmakers Wednesday to ask for $3 million in state funding to help build the museum, which would be built in Grand Rapids.

Several hours later, the state House tentatively voted to give the project $500,000 in the upcoming fiscal year. The proposal would chip in the same amount each year until the $3 million is paid.

The money is included in a 1977-8 bill still before the House, and it must face scrutiny in the Senate, too.

While they indicated some money will be allocated for the museum, it is unlikely to get the full $3 million in a one-time shot as project backers wanted. Museum organizers said they need to know by August if the state will help them buy land and move businesses from the proposed site.

The lawmakers treated Ford respectfully, but gave him the same message they gave state officials more bluntly: "Can you do with less?"

"It's a question we ask all our bureaucrats," commented Sen. Charles Zollar, R-Benton Harbor.

Ford was asked — tactfully — why the Democratic-controlled legislature should allocate money for a museum to promote a Republican who may run for high office again.

Ford responded that the "odds are overwhelming" that he won't seek the presidency in 1980. He said he wasn't ruling it out because the GOP needed a spokesman and to declare his retirement "would be harmful to the party as a whole."

But, Ford noted later, "I am not an active candidate and have no intention of becoming an active candidate."

Ford was one of five persons inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame this month.