

PIKE TO REQUEST CONTEMPT ACTION IN C.I.A. INQUIRY

Challenges Administration's Right to Keep Classified Material From Congress

By DAVID BINDER

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 —

Representative Otis G. Pike said today that in his opinion the executive branch was in "contempt of Congress," and that he would ask the House of Representatives to take action next week.

In making his assertion, the Suffolk County Democrat, who is chairman of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, challenged the Ford Administration's right to withhold classified information from Congress. He said that if the House backed him, he would name an official he wanted found in contempt—possibly President Ford, but more likely somebody like William E. Colby, the Director of Central Intelligence.

Optimistic on Citation

Mr. Pike indicated this afternoon that he felt the committee would support his request for a contempt resolution and that the House would muster sufficient votes to pass it because of widespread sentiment that the Administration had affronted Congress.

A White House spokesman also indicated a major confrontation was in the making, saying that an attempt by Republican members of the Pike committee to obtain White House approval of a compromise had "fallen by the wayside."

The dispute between the two branches of Government began Sept. 11, when the House committee voted to declassify some

Continued on Page 13, Column 1

