Pike Warns U.S. Officials On Contempt

By Richard L. Lyons Washington Post Staff Writer

Rep. Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.) yesterday threatened contempt of Congress action against Ford administration officials if they continue to "obstruct and delay" the work of his House select committee investigating U.S. intelligence agencies.

Committee members peared united yesterday in denouncing a State Department order that would permit only a handful of its top officials to testify freely before them.

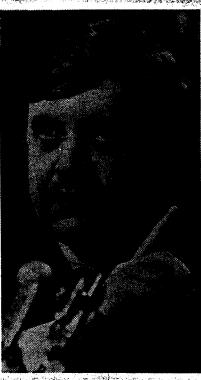
The order came on top of an administration announcement two weeks ago that the committee would be given no more classified information until it promised not to declassify and release the data on its own decision. That issue is still not resolved.

After hearing the State Department "flat," which appar ently means only officials of the rank of assistant secretary or higher would be permitted to testify on policy-making matters, Pike said he felt the administration "is in contempt of Congress" and "we should move carefully and deliberately but steadily to determine that issue."

Pike suggested that the committee prepare a resolution to take to the floor asking for a vote of confidence from the full House in its efforts to

See PIKE, A7, Col 4





By James K. W. Atherton—The Washington Post State Department's Eagleburger testifies before House Intelligence Committee.

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get information it needs from tion wanted kept secret. the executive branch.

State Department, requested ing about intelligence in adand Pike agreed to a delay on the resolution until Monday which has left unresolved morning to give the adminis problems including the status

obtaining classified informa not to answer their questions. tion and expected a response in a day or two.

he committee had declassi-State."

The state of the s |fied material the administra-

Yesterday's uproar was trig-But Rep. Robert McClory of gered by a committee staff at Illinois, senior committee Republican, while deploring "the level State Department offilack of cooperation" from the cial in preparation for a heartration a chance to change its of U.S. bases in Turkey. The position.

McClory said he spoke to Boyatt, then chief of the department's Cyprus desk. But about resolving the issue of obtaining classified information.

Lawrence S. Eagleburger, deputy under secretary for The committee had offered management, testified yesterlast week to give the adminis- day that he had issued instructration 24 hours' notice of in-tions on Tuesday that departtention to declassify informalment officials interviewed by tion. McClory said yesterday Pike's committee are "to Dehe thought this would satisfy cline by order of the Secretary administration objections be of State to give information cause White House counsel which would disclose options Philip W. Buchen had told considered by or recomhim the problem was the mended to more senior offi-"precipitous" manner in which cers in the Department of Eagleburger said this meant, time but which they believed that juntor or middle-level of the in the long-range national interest.

Rep. Philip H Hayes (Discussion of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground of excuses are used to try to keep the committee ground on the start of the start to try to try to try to the start to ground on the start to try the excusion of confidence and it is not complied with a wall to the start implication.

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