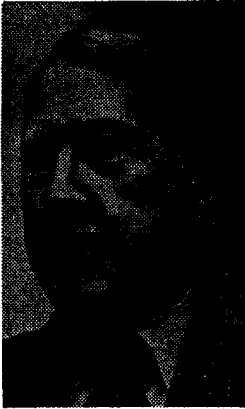


House Unit Acts to Cite CBS in Contempt

6-30-71
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FRANK STANTON
... resists subpoena

A House subcommittee voted 5 to 0 yesterday to cite the Columbia Broadcasting System and its president, Frank Stanton, for contempt for refusing to obey its order to submit unused film from "The Selling of the Pentagon."

CBS, while saying it will continue to resist the order as an infringement of the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of the press, issued a revised set of news-program standards.

The subcommittee said that if these standards had been followed in preparing the award-winning documentary, its investigation would have been unnecessary.

The subcommittee said there was evidence that CBS "engaged in highly deceptive practices" in editing the film for the program. Cutting and splicing of film, the subcommittee said, resulted in making persons interviewed appear to be answering spoken questions when in fact there were answering questions not shown on the program.

The subpoena ordered CBS to give the subcommittee unused film, called "outtakes." It said the public was entitled to the truth about the broadcast and that "the outtakes are the only means by which the truth can be ascertained." The subcommittee said it needed the information to "determine the adequacy of existing legislation covering broadcasting,"

which is licensed by the government to use the public airwaves.

Stanton contended that the unused film was the equivalent of reporters' notes and protected by the First Amendment against subpoena.

The full House Commerce Committee will meet Thursday morning on the issue. If the committee and the House vote to cite CBS and Stanton for contempt, the matter would be sent to the Justice Department for prosecution.

See CBS, A16, Col. 1

Supreme Court ruling on The New York Times and The Washington Post now is expected by end of the week. Details, A2.

Citation Against CBS Voted by House Panel

CBS, From A1

Conviction carries a maximum penalty of a \$1,000 fine and one year in jail.

CBS said the guidelines issued yesterday resulted from a year-long review of "news standards and practices." In general, they direct film editors to be sure that their product "reflects fairly, honestly, and without distortion what was said."

In a documentary, the guidelines specify, "if the answer to an interview question, as that answer appears in the broadcast, is derived in part or whole from the answers to other questions, the broadcast will so indicate."

The subcommittee said

these guidelines were similar to those issued after the 1959 quiz show scandals where participants admitted getting answers in advance. The subcommittee said it considered the current incident "far more serious" than the quiz show revelations because a news documentary is involved.

The documentary was critical of the Pentagon spending on public relations.

Stanton said of the confrontation between CBS and the subcommittee: "All this boils down to is: Is this country going to have a free press or is indirect censorship to be imposed upon it? The issue is as simple as that—and as crucial."