

House Unit on Intelligence Votes, 9-4, to Issue Report

**'Minor Changes' Made in Initial Draft,
but Pike Panel Is Said to Have Kept
Basic Findings Despite Protests**

By JOHN M. CREWDSON

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23—The House Select Committee on Intelligence, after making what a committee source termed "a small number of minor changes" in the initial draft, voted 9 to 4 today to approve the publication of a final report summarizing its year-long investigation of the Federal intelligence agencies.

The vote to make the final report public at the end of this month followed nearly a week of discussions between the House committee and representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency, who were concerned about the conclusions in the draft report and the degree to which it disclosed classified or otherwise sensitive information.

In a letter sent on Tuesday to Representative Otis G. Pike, the Long Island Democrat who heads the committee, the C.I.A. termed the draft report prepared by the panel's staff a "biased, pejorative and factually erroneous" effort and requested a number of changes in the final version of the document.

According to one source present at today's meeting, the Pike committee responded with "a lot of noes" to the C.I.A. entreaties to alter some passages and delete others.

Another source, asked what sort of changes had been made, offered as an example the replacement of the term "satellite photography" with the more ambiguous phrase "technical overhead reconnaissance."

In addition to obscuring such secret intelligence-gathering techniques, Mr. Pike told reporters, deletions were made to prevent the public exposure of C.I.A. operatives, to avoid embarrassing the United States diplomatically and to tone down criticism of members of the Ford Administration.

Reason for Changes

The changes agreed to by the panel, some of which were requested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, were made to obscure the intelligence sources and methods but did not dilute

any of the committee's basic findings about the operations of the C.I.A., F.B.I. or other Federal agencies, the source said.

One source said that the committee had prevailed over the objections of the agencies involved simply because Mr. Pike "had the votes" to override them.

The four Representatives who voted against release of the document were Robert McClory of Illinois, David C. Treen of Louisiana and Robert W. Kassten of Wisconsin, all Republicans, and Dale Milford, a Texas Democrat.

Mr. McClory said in a telephone interview today that he was disturbed by the committee's decision to publish secret information it had received from the intelligence agencies and that he might ask the full House to block its publication.

But first, he said, he wanted to ascertain whether there was "any substantial support" for his position among his colleagues before bringing the matter to a vote on the House floor.

C.I.A. to Press for Changes

The clearest indication of the C.I.A.'s displeasure over the version of the report approved today was one agency official's insistence that he intended, without having received any indication from the committee that it would be receptive, to renew on Monday the agency's appeals for further changes.

Asked about that eventually Mr. Pike replied that his committee had voted to approve the final version of the report and he did not expect the members to change their minds. "As far as I'm concerned, the report is done," he said.

The committee's vote today was to some extent an academic one, since much of the initial draft of the report, which will remain secret until it is filed with the Clerk of the House on Jan. 31, was made available to reporters earlier this week in unexpurgated form.

Among the topics in the two-volume document were several aspects of the C.I.A.'s operations overseas, including the use of journalists to gather intelligence on its behalf and disguising of some of the agency's full-time operatives as newsmen.

According to one source, the committee's staff concluded on the basis of information supplied by the C.I.A. and others that, as of last year, 11 full-time intelligence officers were posing as journalists reporting from abroad.

Disguised Agents

Over the last three years, the source said, some 15 news-gathering organizations, none of them apparently major American networks, newspapers or wire services, had permitted C.I.A. officers to pass themselves off as employees for them.

Although the committee has no evidence that any of those organizations reported news designed primarily for "consumption" in this country, the source said, at least five of the 15 were of major importance as sources of news in other parts of the world.

The sources added that, as late as 1973, the C.I.A. had five operatives as full-time correspondents on the payrolls of domestic American news organizations, but that that practice has been halted because of the agency's concern that it might have influenced news reporting by those organizations.

Other intelligence sources distinguished between the use, by full-time C.I.A. operatives, of journalistic "covers" to disguise their agency affiliations and the use by the C.I.A. of legitimate journalists as part-time gatherers of intelligence.

The committee's files reportedly contain no information on the extent to which relationships between the C.I.A. and otherwise legitimate reporters have existed in the past.

Major and Minor Links

But one intelligence source said that the C.I.A. no longer maintained such associations with staff reporters for major American newspapers, magazines or networks, although it continued to solicit intelligence from part-time correspondents, or "strangers," for more obscure domestic publications.

In cases where the C.I.A. has undercover officers with a journalistic organization, the source said, executives of the organization have been made aware of the agents' true affiliation.

One of the news organizations mentioned in the House committee report as having been subject to manipulation by the C.I.A. is Reuters, the British news agency, which, since it does not intend its wire service for primary use in the United States, is considered "fair game" by the C.I.A., the first source said.

It is unclear whether the information gathered by the Pike committee involves the "planting" of bogus news stories with Reuters by the C.I.A., or the placing of C.I.A. officers under cover as Reuters reporters.

But Gerald Long, the managing director of Reuters, said in a radio interview with the BBC released by the news agency today that he had no evidence that any Reuters dispatch had been tampered with or otherwise manipulated by the C.I.A. "Everything in the world is possible," Mr. Long said. "It would be foolish to deny the possibility. But I have no evi-

dence of it, and I think it would be extremely unlikely."

Jaffe Names 2 Newsmen

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (UPI)—Sam A. Jaffe, a former CBS and ABC correspondent said today that he was told that Walter Cronkite and John Chancellor were on a Central Intelligence Agency list of reporters who have performed secret intelligence work.

Mr. Cronkite and Mr. Chancellor immediately denied they ever had been employed by the C.I.A. or Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Jaffe, an admitted F.B.I. informant while working for the networks, said he had learned from several sources of a list of between 40 and 200 reporters who allegedly informed for United States intelligence agencies.

Mr. Jaffe said in an interview on a local television show, WTIG's Panorama, that he had not seen the list and could not prove it exists. He said he had learned about the list from a former White House speechwriter, Patrick Buchanan, and house committee sources.

Mr. Cronkite, anchorman for CBS News, vehemently attacked the accusation.

"I have never knowingly had any contact with the C.I.A. in any capacity whatsoever except as a reporter seeking information," he said.

Mr. Chancellor, former head of the Voice of America and now anchorman on the NBC Nightly News, said, "This is not only totally untrue, it's ridiculous. I have never done a thing formally or informally for either the C.I.A. or the F.B.I."

CBS Rebutts Jaffe

CBS Information Services said last night that A. Searle Field, staff director of the House Intelligence Committee called CBS News in Washington yesterday and volunteered the following statement:

"Jaffe's allegations about newsmen have been made in interviews with our staff. We have carefully checked them—including going over C.I.A. files—and have concluded they are without foundation.

"We have also concluded that Jaffe is not a credible witness."

Statement by Buchanan

Reached in Washington by phone, Mr. Buchanan said late yesterday that he had never heard of the list mentioned by Mr. Jaffe until rumors about it began to make the rounds two months ago.

Mr. Buchanan said Mr. Jaffe had called him last Dec. 22 about another matter and that it was Mr. Jaffe who had brought up the subject rather than the other way round. Mr. Buchanan voiced skepticism that such a list ever existed and added, "The town has gone bonkers, and Jaffe is the point-man."



The New York Times/George James

Abraham A. Ribicoff, left, chairman of Senate panel on Government operations, talking with William E. Colby, Director of Central Intelligence, who testified.