

Kissinger Hits Leaks of Pike Report

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By Murrey Marder
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Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger angrily charged yesterday that leaks of a House intelligence committee report strongly criticizing him amount to "a new version of McCarthyism."

President Ford, simultaneously, volunteered to House Speaker Carl Albert "the full resources and services of

the executive branch" to track down the leaks. The Ford administration wants to underscore its suspicion that the leaks came from Congress, which has been put on the defensive in the uproar over leaks of intelligence information.

Kissinger, in an unusually hoarse and tense voice, told a news conference at the State Department:

"I believe that the misuse of highly classified information in a tendentious, misleading and totally irresponsible fashion must do damage to the foreign policy of the United States, and has already done damage to the foreign policy of the United States."

When Kissinger was asked if attacks on him could affect the conduct of foreign policy enough to cause him to step down, he indicated no current inclination to do so, but he said:

"If I should conclude that it is in the interest of American foreign policy, I would step down. But what one also has to consider is whether the style of public debate should be that...any public officer can be destroyed by the most irresponsible and flagrant charges, and that then the argument should be made that the (his) effectiveness is affected, because totally irresponsible and essentially untrue charges are made."

Kissinger's indignation,

and the White House offer to investigate leaks, followed publication by The Village Voice, a New York weekly tabloid newspaper, of a 24-page supplement containing large portions of the report by the committee headed by Rep. Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.). The House last month voted to block publication of the report when administration officials said disclosure would jeopardize national security.

Pike has suggested that the leak may be part of an ad-

See KISSINGER, A8, Col.1

KISSINGER, From Administration attempt to embarrass his intelligence committee, whose life has expired.

White House press secretary Ron Nessen said, "The President is confident that the information in The Village Voice... did not come out of the executive branch" and "is disposed to believe that it came from Congress — all of the leaks, that is."

Nessen denied that the offer to Albert, made in a morning telephone call from Max L. Friedersdorf, head of the White House congressional liaison staff, to an Albert aide, was an attempt to put

"pressure" on the speaker.

He said Mr. Ford was only offering help because the leak to The Village Voice was a "violation" of "the solemn agreement" between the White House and the Pike committee, and also "flies in the face of the overwhelming vote of the House" not to publish the report.

A spokesman in the Speaker's office later said Albert was reading the full report and had no immediate response to Mr. Ford's offer.

The Village Voice version of the report, entitled "The CIA Report The President Doesn't Want You to Read," charged that there were repeated U.S. intelligence failures in Vietnam; in the 1973 Arab-Israeli war; in the U.S. global military alert against the Soviet Union at the end of that war; in the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus; in the 1974 Portuguese coup; and in other instances.

Kissinger was the central personal target of the report.

He was accused of selling out the Kurdish rebellion led by Gen. Mustapha Barzani, with great loss of life, as part of a deal between Iran and Iraq. Kissinger also was charged with a passion for secrecy in efforts to control dissemination and analysis of data inside the bureaucracy, and with making "comments, at variance with the facts" about the handling of suspected Soviet violations of the nuclear strategic arms accords of 1972.

In addition to The Village Voice disclosure, Kissinger also was indignant yesterday about a new round of charges from New York Times columnist William Safire charging Kissinger with amorally dismissing "the Ford administration's betrayal of an ally" in the aborted Kurdish revolt.

Kissinger did not respond with specifics to any of the broad charges yesterday.

He said "it is extremely difficult to reply to charges in a leaked document," and besides, he said, "I do not know what version of the Pike committee report is now being circulated."

Kissinger said he is confronted by "the use of highly classified information" in "a manner so distorted, so geared to preconceived ideas, that the total impact is to produce a malicious lie."

Therefore, he said, "even where documents in them-

...selves are correct, they are taken out of context and they are so fitted into a preconceived pattern that we are facing here a new version of McCarthyism. He was referring to the late Sen.

Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) who exploited the Reds-in-government hunt in the early 1950s.

When asked if the United States did encourage the Kurds to expect our support and then suddenly double-cross them in early 1978, Kissinger replied:

"That is total falsehood. But it is impossible in these covert operations to explain the truth without creating even more difficulties."

Asked if he received a gift from Kurdish leader Barzani which has been previously reported as one or more rugs and a necklace for Mrs. Kissinger, the secretary answered:

"I have never had any possession which I have never received, which I have never in any way dealt with, which was kept in the White House in some regular procedure."

Kissinger said, "I have never received a gift either from Gen. Barzani or a gift I kept from any foreign leader. And I think it is a disgrace to believe, and to imply, that the United States would conduct foreign policy because of gifts that senior officials may receive."

On current world issues, Kissinger said that in the sweeping advances by the Soviet-backed and Cuban-reinforced troops in Angola,

"The MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) did not score a military victory. Cuba scored

...military victory, backed by the Soviet Union. Almost all of the fighting was done by Cuban forces.

Raising the U.S. estimates of Soviet support to the MPLA, Kissinger said it now amounts to \$300 million, with \$100 million more of military equipment sent in during January, while he repeated that Cuba has 12,000 troops in Angola.

Kissinger virtually abandoned yesterday the prospect which he had raised that the Ford administration might seek "overt aid" for anti-Communist forces in Angola, after Congress blocked further covert aid.

He said there would be "extreme legal and political difficulty" in making "any overt request" because it would in effect say that the United States is asking for funds for some country to intervene in a civil war in some other country. But he said there is "grave concern" in neighboring countries such as Zaire, Zambia and others "that this (Angolan) pattern might be repeated," and he said the United States will do its best to prevent that.

On other topics, Kissinger said:

— The Ford administration is "developing a position to transmit to the Soviet Union with the next week or so" in the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT).

— China's naming of Hua Kuo-feng as acting prime minister was a surprise to the Ford administration, "but we expect the basic lines of policy will continue."

— The reported radiation

hazard from microwaves beamed at the U.S. embassy in Moscow "is a matter of great delicacy which has many ramifications" which he declined to specify. The United States is attempting "to reduce any dangers, and we are also engaged in discussions on this subject."

— Reports of bribes or payoffs around the world by the Lockheed Aircraft Corp. "disturbs me" because of the foreign policy and domestic implications. He said, "We not only do not condone these actions, we strongly condemn them."

Hurdles Seen for New Panel on CIA

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By Walter Pincus
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It could take a year or longer and unprecedented security arrangements for members of Congress and their staffs before a new House committee on intelligence is established, according to key members.

The early establishment of a new committee is blocked by:

White House opposition, a jurisdictional fight among existing committees, the backlash from the leaks of the report prepared by the ad hoc intelligence committee headed by Rep. Otis Pike (D-N.Y.), the complexities of overseeing intelligence and the fact that only a handful of legislators is willing to take the lead in the reform process.

"The air has gone out of the balloon," said Rep. John Anderson (R-Ill.), chairman of the Republican Policy Committee. "There was too much blabbering from the Pike committee and the House is now willing to relax and go back to its old ways."

Chairman Melvin Price (D-Ill.) of the House Armed Services Committee said:

"We don't think there has to be a new committee . . . Under the rules this committee has jurisdiction. We've had it for many years."

Price added that his Subcommittee on Intelligence had continued meeting during the year that the Pike committee functioned. Its last meeting was Friday when new CIA Director George Bush came in for the first time.

For Price, the need now "is to tighten up control that we have. We think it is a mistake to scatter (CIA information) over a number of committees." Under present law, CIA must report to three House committees when the

President approves a new, significant covert operation.

Armed Services Committee member Samuel Stratton (D-N.Y.) said criticism of the old armed services CIA oversight was not "justified" and that the "previous committee worked as far as secrets were concerned."

For Stratton and others, "how to get a committee that won't leak" is the biggest problem.

Rep. Richard Bolling (D-Mo.), who as a ranking member of the Rules Committee expects to take the lead in seeking the new intelligence committee, said it is "absolutely essential" to develop a new security system for any oversight committee.

Bolling suggested limiting the number of House members who have access to sensitive intelligence material as part of any new committee. Under present rules, any House member can see the secret transcripts of any committee.

"It's unpopular," Bolling said, "but the idea that the election process automatically gives a person the right to see secret information is a joke. Some should not have access since they just would not understand the importance of what they learn."

Bolling said, however, that effective oversight of foreign intelligence is one of the most

important issues before Congress.

The task, he said, "is to figure how to pull the new committee together." The Rules Committee, which will handle any proposal for a new committee, has already shown a division on the issue.

Rules member Rep. John

Young (D-Tex.) led the successful fight to have the Pike committee report kept secret.

"Some on the (Rules) Committee want to stay here we are," Bolling said, "and therefore you may be talking about years" before any new intelligence oversight committee is formed.