

Contempt Citations Eased

12/3/75

By Murrey Marder
Washington Post Staff Writer

House intelligence committee Chairman Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.) said yesterday that his committee has obtained "substantial compliance" that resolves two contempt citations aimed at Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, but that he will pursue a third charge.

Kissinger was the target of a broadside of additional accusations yesterday from the committee's witness, Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt, former chief of naval operations.

Key officials "were deceived" by Kissinger, and President Ford himself was "grossly, badly briefed"

about Soviet "clear-cut violations" of nuclear arms agreements, Zumwalt charged.

Although President Ford has said there was no firm evidence of Soviet violations, Zumwalt said, "It is my belief that the President of the United States is not aware of the extent to which information is withheld from him."

Rep. James P. Johnson (R-Colo.) said "secret documents" in the executive branch contradict Zumwalt's accusations. But the admiral countered that this is "fatuous pettifogging" by the National Security Council staff, which Kissinger used to head.

Even though Mr. Ford on Nov. 3 took the post of presidential national security adviser away from Kissinger, Zumwalt said Kissinger retains full control of nuclear arms policy.

Kissinger continues to preside over the interdepartmental Verification Panel on nuclear agreements, said Zumwalt, "so there really hasn't been a shift of power." With Kissinger the chief negotiator on U.S.-Soviet strategic arms limitation (SALT), Zumwalt said, this is like "the Yankees playing the Dodgers with a Yankee umpire."

The House intelligence

See SALT, A4, Col.6

SALT, From A1

committee last month voted three contempt citations against Kissinger for his "contumacious conduct" in failing to supply it with subpoenaed classified information.

Two subpoenas, the State Department insisted, were erroneously directed to Kissinger as "Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs or his subordinates," the post Kissinger lost on Nov. 3.

One subpoena called for documents of the Forty Committee, which supervises covert intelligence operations, back to 1965. The second sought all documents relating to compliance with the 1972 SALT accord and the November, 1974, SALT agreement between Mr. Ford and Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev.

The third subpoena directed Kissinger as Secretary of State to supply documents on recommendations for covert operations between 1962 and 1972. President Ford invoked executive privilege to withhold these documents.

Pike said the committee has access to inspect White House

records for the first two subpoenas which amounts to "substantial compliance." But he said he will press for action on the third contempt citation when the President and Kissinger return from China.

Rep. Robert McClory of Illinois, the committee's ranking Republican, said he hoped the third citation "likewise might be resolved." Rep. Dale Milford (D-Tex.) said a contempt of Congress citation against Kissinger would bring "disastrous loss of confidence in both branches of government."

Zumwalt's charges against Kissinger encompassed many accusations of Soviet "cheating" on SALT aired during the last two years by Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), by former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird, by Zumwalt, and others.

Kissinger engaged in such "sloppy negotiations" and then "misled" other U.S. officials about the Soviet Union's "grotesque mockery" of the agreements that it amounted to "collusion" with the Russians, Zumwalt charged.

Zumwalt, who retired

from active duty on July 1, 1974, told the committee that he is a potential candidate for the Democratic senatorial nomination from Virginia and described himself as an "occasional news analyst."