

Schorr Taken Off His Assigned Beat

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CBS correspondent Daniel Schorr, who passed a copy of the House intelligence committee report to the weekly newspaper Village Voice for publication, has been removed from the intelligence beat by his network.

Schorr was transferred to general assignment late Wednesday by CBS Washington bureau chief Sanford Socolow.

Schorr covered the intelligence beat, considered a key assignment, for 13 months.

Last week, at the height of the furor over the still officially secret report's publication, he was barred by CBS from covering the House intelligence committee itself, but continued other intelligence beat coverage.

CBS action was earned yesterday shortly before the House, by 265 to 115, directed its ethics committee to inquire if Schorr is in contempt of the House for his role in the publication of portions of the report. The intelligence committee has expired.

The resolution was introduced by Rep. Samuel Stratton (D-N.Y.).

Schorr has publicly stated that he passed the report to The Village Voice, which published excerpts in its Feb. 16 and Feb. 23 issues. Schorr had revealed some of the report's contents on television and radio broadcasts

before Congress voted Jan. 29 to keep the report secret.

Yesterday's resolution asked the ethics committee to probe the circumstances surrounding its publication in the newspaper.

CBS news president Richard Salant said yesterday that the reassignment does not represent disciplinary action against Schorr.

However, it is known that CBS officials held several discussions in New York this week regarding Schorr's status.

While CBS officials have told Schorr they will back him to the fullest against any government action that might seek to force him to reveal how he got the report, it is known that some CBS executives believe the report's subsequent publication in The Village Voice has raised serious questions.

One senior network executive, who asked that his name not be used, said yesterday that "the Voice is what I'd call at least an 'anti-establishment' paper.

"Publication of the report there," he said, "made Dan's actions very political. It could reinforce the conviction some of our conservative affiliates have that while CBS news management is not politically oriented, underneath them are some reporters who wear their hearts on their left sleeves."