

Revealed Chile Data, Harrington Admits

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Newly released testimony by Rep. Michael Harrington (D-Mass.) shows that he told House investigators that he released secret testimony about CIA operations in Chile to show the government was lying in its public statements.

A transcript of the Massachusetts Democrat's statements also shows that Harrington knew he violated House rules when he released the CIA testimony.

Harrington testified under oath last Sept. 25 before the House intelligence subcommittee. The transcript of the closed-door session was released Wednesday by the House Armed Services Committee, which includes that subcommittee.

In acknowledging that he publicly disclosed details of CIA Director William E. Colby's testimony that the agency spent \$11 million against Chilean President Salvador Allende, Harrington said he was concerned that U.S. officials were claiming publicly that the United States was not involved in any way in Allende's downfall.

President Ford later confirmed at a news conference that the CIA conducted covert operations supporting Allende's political and media opponents but he insisted that the United States was not involved in the coup that ended in Allende's death.

The transcript of Harrington's testimony was released amid controversy over what to do about the dissension-term House panel set up to look into the CIA and other intelligence agencies.

The decision to release the transcript was made by Rep.

Samuel S. Stratton (D-N.Y.), who contends the select committee should be abolished on the ground that Harrington and several other members would endanger U.S. intelligence agencies by releasing secret information about them.

House leaders have reached no decision on how to revise the committee to get its intelligence investigation going.

In his testimony last September, Harrington said he read Colby's secret testimony describing covert operations in Chile in the late 1960s and early 1970s against Allende but was unable to get any indication of those operations from the public testimony of an assistant secretary of state.

He said that in efforts to get a congressional investigation under way, he discussed the secret information with about eight members of Congress, about five members of his own staff, one Senate aide and a Washington Post reporter. He said he first discussed it with the reporter on a personal basis, seeking advice on how to go about properly getting the information disclosed.

He said the Post reporter did nothing with the information but when the congressman learned that a New York Times reporter had obtained the information and was about to publish a story, he told the Post reporter he was free to publish it also.

Harrington said that if he were convinced lives were being endangered or that U.S. national security would be affected by the disclosures, "I would not have in any way done other than follow the rules" against public disclosure of confidential materials.