

Secret Shriver Book? *Post 6-12-69*

R. Sargent Shriver, the U.S. Ambassador to France, is writing a book so super-secret that only a few faint whispers floated around anywhere until this past week.

Hardly anyone in the New York publishing world had even heard about the project. That's remarkable in a business where everyone usually knows about such VIP manuscripts before the authors have sat down to write them.

The existence of the book leaked out on Capitol Hill a day or so ago. Republicans and Democrats alike are apprehensive about the contents.

One GOP source says he hears it is so critical of the Nixon Administration that "it will be impossible for Shriver to remain in Paris more than a few more months—maybe not that long if we find out more about what's in it."

A New York publishing executive close to the Johnson Administration says that he can't confirm whether the book is critical of present U.S. policies. But, he adds:

"I heard months ago rumors I never could pin down that Shriver was going to write a book in which he intended to say all the things about LBJ that he couldn't ever say before."

Neither Shriver nor anyone close to him could be reached for comment.