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Contempt Vote on Kissinger Linked to Ford Data

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—Chairman Otis G. Pike of the House Select Committee on Intelligence said today that he would drop contempt action against Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger if a delegation from his committee decided that a compromise offered by President Ford was satisfactory.

The New York Democrat said that three committee members and two staff members had been sent to the White House today to find out exactly what the committee would get in response to its subpoena asking Mr. Kissinger to turn over all State Department requests for United States covert operations since 1961.

Mr. Pike said, "we have a definite indication" that Mr. Ford's compromise will give the committee information on

not only the covert operations actually carried out but also on any the State Department requested that were turned down.

Mr. Pike said he also had an indication that the covert operations requested by the State Department rather than intelligence agencies would be specifically identified.

But Mr. Pike said he would take no position on whether all that would be satisfactory unless the committee delegation, and particularly the two staff members, tell him it is.

Mr. Pike said he told the committee in closed session that his intention was to ask for a House vote against Mr. Kissinger tomorrow.

He said it "still would be," unless the delegation finds Mr. Kissinger to be in "substantial

compliance" with the subpoena or unless the committee overrules Mr. Pike by a majority vote.

The committee had subpoenaed all State Department requests for covert intelligence operations since 1961. Mr. Pike said that he had been told there were 25 of them.

Mr. Ford offered to identify to the committee all covert operations that the State Department requested that had been carried out.

But Mr. Pike said the committee needed information on all the requests, not just those carried out, to determine how much control Presidents had maintained by approving such operations.

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