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Pike Hits Blocking Of Report

Associated Press

Chairman Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.) accused the Ford administration yesterday of trying to block the House intelligence committee's final report partly because it makes officials, including Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, look bad.

"It's the people who were telling the CIA what to do who are going to look bad," Pike said. "And I think this is one of the reasons they're very anxious to sit on it."

"There's no question in my mind," Pike added later, "that Mr. Kissinger was in on the planning and approval of a great many covert actions."

Pike was interviewed on the television show "Today" (NBC-WRC) yesterday.

Siding with President Ford in the battle over release of secret information in the report, the House, in a 246-to-124 vote Thursday, ordered the committee to keep the report secret or get Mr. Ford's approval to publicly release it.

Pike said the committee put all 2,293 copies of the report under the custody of the House clerk on Friday, so he will have no further say over what happens to it.

"If somebody else is going to censor it, that's their business," Pike said. "But not this boy."

Pike indicated the intelligence committee will stay in business to consider recommendations and said two proposed recommendations are vital.

The first is that a tough, permanent House intelligence supervisory committee be created, Pike said, and the second is that rules be established to protect secrecy but still allow House members to take action against activities they consider improper.