

# Kissinger Hits Leaks of Pike Report

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Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger angrily charged yesterday that leaks of a House intelligence committee report strongly criticizing him amount to "a new version of McCarthyism."

President Ford, simultaneously, volunteered to House Speaker Carl Albert "the full resources and services of the executive branch" to track down the leaks. The Ford administration wants to underscore its suspicion that the leaks came from Congress, which has been put on the defensive in the uproar over leaks of intelligence information.

Kissinger, in an unusually hoarse and tense voice, told a news conference at the State Department:

"I believe that the misuse of highly classified information in a tendentious, misleading and totally irresponsible fashion must do damage to the foreign policy of the United States, and has already done damage to the foreign policy of the United States."

When Kissinger was asked if attacks on him could affect the conduct of foreign policy enough to cause him to step down, he indicated no current inclination to do so, but he said:

If I should conclude that it is in the interest of American foreign policy, I would step down. But what one has to consider is whether the state of public debate could be that any public information could be destroyed by the irresponsible and irresponsible charges, and that the argument should be made that the (this) of business is affected, and is really irresponsible and essentially untrue. Kissinger's indignation, the White House offer to track down the leaks, followed by the New York weekly, the Village Voice, and a 24-page supplement containing large portions of the report by the committee headed by Rep. C. Pike (D-N.Y.). The House last month voted to block publication of the report when administration officials said disclosure would jeopardize national security. Pike has suggested that the leak may be part of an ad-

Soviet Union at the end of that war; in the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus; in the 1974 Portuguese coup, and in other instances.

Kissinger was the central, personal target of the report.

He was accused of selling out the Kurdish rebellion led by Gen. Mustapha Barzani, with great loss of life, as part of a deal between Iran and Iraq. Kissinger also was charged with "a passion for secrecy" in efforts to "control dissemination and analysis of data" inside the bureaucracy, and with making "comments at variance with the facts" about the handling of suspected Soviet violations of the nuclear strategic arms accords of 1972.

In addition to The Village Voice disclosure, Kissinger also was indignant yesterday about a new round of charges from New York Times columnist William Safire charging Kissinger with amorally dismissing "the Ford administration's betrayal of an ally" in the aborted Kurdish revolt.

Kissinger did not respond with specifics to any of the broad charges yesterday.

He said "it is extremely difficult to reply to charges in a leaked document," and besides, he said, "I do not know what version of the Pike committee report is now being circulated."

Kissinger said he is confronted by "the use of highly classified information" in "a manner so distorted, so geared to preconceived ideas, that the total impact is to produce a malicious lie."

Therefore, he said, "even where documents in themselves are correct, they are taken so out of context and they are so fitted into a preconceived pattern that we are facing here a new version of McCarthyism." He was referring to the late Sen.

Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) who exploited the Reds-in-government hunt in the early 1950s.

When asked if the United States did "encourage the Kurds to expect our support and then suddenly double-cross them" in early 1975, Kissinger replied:

"That is a total falsehood. But it is impossible in these covert operations to explain the truth without creating even more difficulties..."

Asked if he received "a gift" from Kurdish leader Barzani — which has been previously reported as one or more rugs, and a necklace for Mrs. Kissinger — the secretary snapped back: "Gen. Barzani sent a gift to the White House which was never in my possession, which I have never received, which I never in any way dealt with, which was kept in the White House in some regular procedure."

Kissinger said, "I have never received a gift either from Gen. Barzani or a gift I kept from any foreign leader. And I think it is a disgrace to believe, and to imply, that the United States would conduct foreign policy because of gifts, that senior officials may receive."

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On current world issues, Kissinger said that in the sweeping advances by the Soviet-backed and Cuban-reinforced troops in Angola, The MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) did not score a military victory. Cuba scored a military victory, backed by the Soviet Union. Almost all of the fighting was done by Cuban forces.

Raising the U.S. estimates of Soviet support to the MPLA, Kissinger said it now amounts to \$300 million, with \$100 million more of military equipment sent in during January, while he repeated that Cuba has 12,000 troops in Angola.

Kissinger virtually abandoned yesterday the prospect which he had raised that the Ford administration might seek "overt aid" for anti-Communist forces in Angola, after Congress blocked further covert aid.

He said there would be "extreme legal and political difficulty" in making "any overt request... because it would in effect say that the United States is asking for funds for some country to intervene in a civil war in some other country." But he said there is "grave concern" in neighboring countries such as Zaire, Zambia and others "that this (Angolan) pattern might be repeated," and he said the United States will do its best to prevent that.

On other topics, Kissinger said:

— The Ford administration is "developing a position to transmit to the Soviet Union with the next week or so" in the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT).

— China's naming of Hua Kuo-feng as acting prime minister was a surprise to the Ford administration, "but we expect the basic lines of policy will continue."

— The reported radiation microwaves beamed at the U.S. embassy in Moscow "is a matter of great delicacy which has many ramifications" which he declined to specify. The United States is attempting "to reduce any dangers, and we are also engaged in discussions on this subject."

— Reports of bribes or payoffs around the world by the Lockheed Aircraft Corp "disturbs me," because of the foreign policy and domestic implications. He said, "We not only do not condone these actions, we strongly condemn them."

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