

Schorr Is Cited in House's Vote For Inquiry in Intelligence Leak

NYTimes

FEB 20 1976

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 (AP) —The House voted today to order its ethics committee to investigate the leak of its Select Committee on Intelligence's secret report and to determine whether to take action against Daniel Schorr, a CBS correspondent, for his role in its publication.

The chamber approved, 269 to 115, a resolution ordering the inquiry and saying it appeared that the "alleged actions of the said Daniel Schorr may be in contempt of or a breach of the privileges of this house." The resolution suggests no specific action against the correspondent.

But Representative Samuel S. Stratton, Democrat of New York, who introduced the resolution, suggested that Mr. Schorr's press card could be voided or that he could be cited for contempt of Congress. The resolution leaves any recommendation up to members of the committee, which is officially named the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Mr. Stratton said the resolution focused on Mr. Schorr "because we know he was involved."

But he added that it was possible the investigation also would involve whoever supplied Mr. Schorr with the report.

Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., the

House Democratic leader, opposed the investigation, saying the news organizations should be allowed to handle their own affairs. Other members who expressed opposition included Bob Eckhardt, Democrat of Texas, who declared: "I'm willing to join in an inquiry, but I'm not willing to join in an inquisition."

Mr. Schorr has acknowledged responsibility for publication of the report in two parts over the last two weeks by The Village Voice, a New York weekly newspaper.

Much of what was in the document had been reported earlier by Mr. Schorr and others.

"I decided," Mr. Schorr said in a public statement, "that with much of the contents already known I could not be the one responsible for suppressing the report."

The House resolution cites that statement by Mr. Schorr in ordering the investigation of circumstances surrounding the publication of the report.

Representative Don Edwards, Democrat of California, said the issue of freedom of the press "is very much involved here."

"By bringing it up this way and naming Mr. Schorr," Mr. Edwards said, "there is a very chilling effect on reporters' right to receive classified information."