

CBS' Schorr

CIA (D)

Suspended Over Leaks

New York

CBS News said yesterday it has indefinitely suspended veteran newsman Daniel Schorr, who is under investigation by Congress after releasing a secret House intelligence report to a weekly newspaper.

Schorr, who has been with CBS for 23 years, admitted releasing the report prepared by the House committee on intelligence to the Village Voice, a weekly published in New York's Greenwich Village.

CBS News president Richard Salant said in a statement that government investigations have been called for to see if Schorr can be prosecuted for releasing the secret report.

The House ordered its ethics committee last week to investigate circumstances of the report's publication, and Justice Department sources say it also is investigating the leak of the House report.

"In view of the adversary situations in which Dan Schorr is placed in pending government investigations, he has agreed with CBS that he will be relieved of all reporting duties for an indefinite period," Salant's statement said.

Schorr said in a statement, "Experience has taught that it is not possible to work as a reporter while personally involved in a controversy over reporters' rights, and I accept that reality.

"I do not seek the legal contest which may lie ahead," he said, "but I am confident that as they unfold, it will become clear that what is involved beyond specific details of my action is the public's continued right to know in the face of a secrecy backlash."

CBS said the network would provide legal counsel to Schorr "insofar as investigations relating to his CBS news activities are concerned." Salant said the network "will fully support Mr. Schorr against attempts to require him to reveal the source through which he obtained the report. These aspects

Back Page Col. 6



UPI Telephoto

DANIEL SCHORR
Legal aid from CBS

SCHORR

From Page 1

of the matter involve fundamental issues of press freedom."

Salant declined to say whether Schorr would remain on the CBS payroll during his suspension and refused to go beyond CBS' prepared statement.

Schorr has said he faced an "inescapable decision of journalistic conscience" and decided to publish the report.

He has said he obtained it with the assumption it would become public in a matter of days but realized after the House ordered it kept secret that he might be the only person outside of government with a copy.

The Village Voice published in two parts the contents of the report on operations of the Central Intelligence Agency and the FBI. The first portion dealt with the covert operations overseas, and the second detailed difficulties the committee had in obtaining secret information from the White House, the intelligence agencies and the State Department.

Much of what was in the report already had been reported by Schorr and others.

Associated Press