

Pike Says CIA Aide Threatened Him

Washington

Representative Otis Pike (Dem.-N.Y.) said yesterday that a CIA official threatened to destroy him politically after Pike's House intelligence committee voted to approve a report critical of the spy agency.

Pike made the statement in a floor speech, but told reporters later he did not think the threat was made in a serious vein.

In his speech, Pike said Mitchell Rogovin, counsel to the CIA director, warned in a January 23 telephone conversation to committee staffer Searle Field that "Pike will pay for this. You wait and see. I'm serious. There will be a political retaliation for this. Any political ambitions that Pike has in New York are through. We'll destroy him for this."

Pike has indicated that he may seek the Democratic nomination for senator in New York.

Rogovin rejected Pike's version of the conversation with Field. "I never said anything like that," Rogovin said. "I never said anything close to it."

"I don't think he really meant it," Pike said later of the Rogovin conversation with Field, staff director of the committee. "I'm sure he didn't mean it."

Earlier yesterday, Pike said at least 105 of the 232 secret documents that the CIA claimed were lost by Pike's committee have been

found at the agency and that the CIA admits it has no record of turning over another 95 of the missing documents to Pike's committee.

"What is going on here is a staged media event to discredit our committee so you won't read our report," Pike told House members.

The House had voted that the committee's final report on covert CIA operations should be kept secret from the public but available on a classified basis to congressmen.

CIA Director George Bush said last Wednesday that 232 of the classified documents sent by the agency to the committee during its investigation last year were never returned.

Pike said he sent four committee staff members to the CIA on Monday and "in less than two hours they found 88 of the alleged missing documents. There were another 17 of the so-called sensitive documents which were merely letters of transmittal."

Additionally, said Pike, CIA counsel Rogovin acknowledged to him the agency has no receipt from the committee for another 95 of the documents it claims were delivered to it.

Pike claimed the State Department "leaked" the report that 232 documents were missing and his committee was to blame.

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