

Pike Turning Over CIA Flap to Albert

By Walter Pincus

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Rep. Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.), who chaired the House intelligence committee, said yesterday that he has ended his dealings with the Central Intelligence Agency and is turning over to House Speaker Carl Albert (D-Okla.) the agency's allegation that classified documents given to the now-defunct committee were missing.

"I'm not going to play their game," Pike said yesterday. "These now are documents of the House," he added in describing 46 sealed cartons of classified files from the committee which are being stored at CIA headquarters. Under an agreement with CIA Director George Bush, the CIA cannot open or examine the cartons without approval of the speaker.

CIA special counsel Mitchell Rogovin said yesterday that although Pike was "walking away from the situation," Rogovin would "speak to someone in Congress so that CIA could go in" and attempt to find the documents that are allegedly missing.

Rogovin said that the CIA was determined to locate all documents it passes on to the committee, even though he recognizes that they belong to the House.

On Tuesday, the CIA requested Pike to permit his staff members to continue an inventory of the stored material, begun Monday. Pike refused.

In a Tuesday floor speech, Pike said his staff had located in the cartons 105 of 232 documents the CIA had claimed were missing. He also said CIA officials had not signed transmittal letters for an additional 95 documents.

CIA officials say some documents were found by the Pike staff Monday but "not verified." Rogovin said yesterday that, despite the lack of signed transmittal letters, the CIA documents were delivered to the committee in packages which were signed for.

Pike has argued that the controversy over allegedly

missing documents was begun as a "media event" in an effort to discredit the intelligence committee and keep House members from reading the committee's report.

Relations between Pike and Rogovin have become publicly strained. The congressman said on the House floor Tuesday that he had been told by an aide that Rogovin last month had threatened political retaliation against Pike for the committee's approving publication of the report, which contained material the administration wanted to keep classified.

Rogovin yesterday denied making such a statement.

In private, Pike and Rogovin voice cool respect for each other. At the White House recently the two men discussed the Village Voice publication of portions of the report with Vice President Rockefeller, who told them his son-in-law, Tom Morgan, edited the New York weekly.