

House to Retain CIA Panel

By Jim Adams
Associated Press

Turning aside assertions that the House intelligence committee is a threat to U.S. intelligence agencies, the House overwhelmingly rejected an effort yesterday to abolish it.

The 293-to-122 vote cleared the way for a vote, possibly today, on creating a new panel to be headed by Rep. Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.)

Pike, who headed the House inquiry into the seizure of the spy ship Pueblo, is Speaker Carl Albert's choice to replace Rep. Lu-

cien N. Nedzi (D-Mich.) as chairman of the intelligence committee, which has been torn with dissension.

Supporters of the effort to abolish the committee included Rep. Samuel S. Stratton (D-N.Y.), who said some present members already have shown an inclination to leak dramatic disclosures against the Central Intelligence Agency.

"You simply can't keep the intelligence agencies on the front pages day after day detailing one exploit after another without doing great damage to them," Stratton said.

But Rep. Peter A. Peyser (R-N.Y.) said he would not vote to abolish the House probe because "I do not want to be part of what may be a cover-up of the CIA."

A member of the present select committee, Rep. Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.) said the panel members do not want to damage U.S. intelligence agencies.

"I want an effective intelligence operation but I don't want to see a secret government deciding for itself what is proper," Giaimo said. "That is what we must investigate."



REP. OTIS G. PIKE
... Speaker's choice