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**HOUSE UNIT SEEKS
CONTEMPT ORDER
AGAINST KISSINGER**

**Asks Citation Because He
Fails to Meet Demands
for Intelligence Data**

PRESIDENT IS 'SHOCKED'

**Secretary Regrets Action—
Says That It Could Raise
Doubts All Over World**

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14 —

The House Select Committee on Intelligence, its members angered by their inability to obtain classified information for their investigation, voted overwhelmingly today to hold Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in contempt of Congress.

The committee accused Mr. Kissinger of "contumacious conduct" for his failure to comply with three subpoenas that it had issued last week, and it approved three separate contempt citations, with 10 of the 13 members voting in favor in each case.

The committee's action must be approved by a majority of the House of Representatives before the matter can be referred to the Justice Department for investigation of possible criminal liability on the part of the Secretary.

House aides said that while there had not been time for any unofficial sounding of opinion on the question among the 435 members of the House, they doubted that it would ultimately vote to recommend criminal proceedings against Mr. Kissinger. If successful, such proceedings could bring him a maximum of a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine on each of the three counts.

Secretary Voices Regret

Mr. Kissinger said after learning that contempt proceedings had been initiated against him that he "profoundly" regretted the committee's move. He said he feared it would "raise serious questions all over the world what this country is doing to itself and what the necessity is to torment ourselves like this month after month."

President Ford, who was in Atlanta today, also expressed regret over the committee's action. He termed it "shocking," and predicted at a news conference that it would have "very broad and serious ramifications."

Mr. Kissinger pointed out that, in the case of one of the three subpoenas—a demand for recommendations for covert intelligence actions sent to the White House by the State Department under previous administrations—President Ford had chosen to protect the confidentiality of the materials with an assertion of executive privilege.

Secretary Defended

A State Department spokesman later emphasized that point, noting that the dispute over the recommendations was now between the committee and the White House and that "the Secretary had no discretion in this matter."

Mr. Ford said at his news conference that he had invoked executive privilege in the mat-

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ter on the advice of Attorney General Edward H. Levi, but had taken the step "with reluctance."

The President told reporters that he had tried over the last five months to cooperate with the committee's investigation but that its demand for the intelligence recommendations, which concerned the Administrations of his three predecessors, was simply "wrong."

The subpoena in question asks for copies of the intelligence recommendations sent from the State Department to the White House between 1962 and 1972, a period that does not include Mr. Ford's tenure as President or Mr. Kissinger's as Secretary of State.

The House committee, headed by Representative Otis G. Pike, Democrat of Long Island, first learned of the invocation of the controversial doctrine of executive privilege in a letter received by Mr. Pike this morning from George H. Aldrich, the State Department's acting legal adviser.

In that letter, Mr. Aldrich said that 10 such recommendations had been discovered in State Department files.

The second subpoena that figured in the recommended contempt citation against Mr. Kissinger calls for the production of minutes of meetings held by the National Security Council's secret "forty committee," which has the responsibility for approving covert intelligence actions undertaken by this country.

The third asked intelligence reports concerning the Soviet Union's degree of compliance with its 1972 agreement with the United States on strategic-arms limitation.

These subpoenas were issued to Mr. Kissinger in his capacity as the President's adviser on national security, a post he is relinquishing to Lieut. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, his deputy.

Subterfuge Indicated

The deadline set by the committee for an Administration response to all three subpoenas expired Tuesday morning, and Mr. Pike said later that while none of the State Department's covert-operations recommendations had been supplied, there had been minimal, and in his view, unsatisfactory compliance with the two other subpoenas.

Mr. Pike said today that the records of meetings held by the Forty Committee had been so heavily censored as to be "meaningless."

The chairman said the White House had offered to allow him to view uncensored versions of the documents, but not other members of the select committee. He termed the offer unacceptable.

The chairman charged at the committee's public session today that his staff had been misled by the White House about the availability of documents relating to the arms-limitation agreement.

The Administration at first provided copies of finished analyses produced by the United States Intelligence Board concerning Soviet compliance with the agreement, Mr. Pike said, with the assurance that it had no other documents relevant to the subpoena's demand.

White House Explanation

Mr. Pike called that assurance an "incredible statement," and added that in the last two days "the White House has now miraculously found" additional documents "and we have been given a handful."

A high White House official termed the incident a "complete misunderstanding," and said that the additional papers had been discovered only after an extended search of files.

"We weren't trying to be cute," the official said, and he maintained that the committee had been given copies of all the documents found thus far that fell within the limits of its subpoena.

The official said he was angered at the Pike committee's undue haste, on the one hand, in demanding such highly sensitive materials from the Administration, and its eagerness in initiating contempt proceedings before the proper documents could be found and evaluated.

The committee voted to subpoena the materials on the arms-limitation agreement after it uncovered what A. Searle

Field, its staff director, called "substantial information," that there had been attempts to distort reports addressing the question of Soviet compliance with the 1972 limitation treaty.

The information that has come to the committee's attention is understood to concern the debate that has taken place within the Administration on whether the Russians have violated the treaty.