

Schorr might face charges on CIA report

Examiner News Service

AMSTERDAM, N.Y. — Rep. Samuel Stratton, D-N.Y., said yesterday he would push next week to cite CBS news correspondent Daniel Schorr for contempt of Congress for releasing a copy of the House Intelligence Committee secret report on the CIA to the Village Voice newspaper in New York City.

Stratton, a nine-term Democrat, said, "It is time for us to stop talking about protecting our nation's key intelligence secrets and procedures and start doing something about it."

"Mr. Schorr spends all day covering Congress. He knew as well as any one that the House had voted two-to-one to block any publication of the Pike committee report until top secret material could be deleted from it," he said.

"This is not a case of freedom of the press," Stratton said. "It is one thing for Mr. Schorr to comment on the committee report on his own news program ... but it is quite another thing for him to pass along the complete text of the report to someone else for publication in clear defiance of the mandate of the House of Representatives."



CBS'S DANIEL SCHORR
'My constitutional duty'

In Washington, Schorr said yesterday, "I don't understand the constitutional basis of what he is suggesting, but I have tried to do what I consider to be my duty under the Constitution."

In New York, CBS News repeated its earlier refusal to comment "on any federal action until it is resolved or becomes clearer."

"At the same time, as we said yesterday, we will fully support Mr. Schorr against any action to force him to reveal his sources," CBS said.

CBS has announced it will assign another correspondent to cover the controversy over the report.

Schorr did not say where he



REP. SAMUEL STRATTON
Pushing for contempt charge

obtained the report. He said he decided to make it available to the Village Voice rather than "cooperate in what might be the total suppression of a report originally meant for public distribution."

Schorr described on Friday "the inescapable decision of journalistic conscience" he said faced him when he learned he might be the only person outside government with a copy of the report.

Schorr initiated arrangements for publication through a reporters' legal defense organization in Washington. Schorr said he would earmark any proceeds from publication for the organization, called the Reporters' Committee for Freedom of the Press.