CIA Police Schools Coming Under Fire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two congressional committees were asked today to investigate the Central Intelligence Agency's role in training nearly 50 police officers in about a dozen U.S. cities.

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Rep. Edward L. Koch, D.N. Y., told a news conference he has requested formal investigations by the Senate and House Government Operations Committees.

Koch made public a letter to him from John Maury, CIA legislative counsel, confirming that the secret agency had participated in training police officers. Koch accused the CIA of violating a 1947 law which says the agency "shall have no police, subpoena, law-enforcement powers, or internal security functions."

In the letter, Maury said the CIA has briefed police officers on such subjects "as the procedures for the processing, analyzing, filing and retrieving information, security devices and procedures, and metal and explosives detection techniques."

The CIA, Maury wrote, does not believe such activities "viplate the letter or spirit" of the 1947 law.

Domestic police training by the CIA is consistent with the 1968 crime control act which extended federal assistance to local and state police units, he maintained.

The CIA training offered 14
New York City officers was
disclosed in a news report in
December. But Koch refused
to name the other cities involved, though he said he has
turned over the identities to
the House and Senate committee chairmen.

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"I think it's ridiculous to consider that to be confidential information," he said.
"But since I told CIA I would respect its request, as silly as I think that request is, I don't intend to violate that pledge at this time."

Asked to define the cities as large or small, he refused comment.