

CIA Expert Testifies on Secret Satellite Manual

Hammond, Ind.

A Central Intelligence Agency official who developed a manual for a sophisticated space satellite system said yesterday the technical document could be extremely valuable to the Soviet Union.

Leslie Dirks, CIA deputy director for science and technology, testified in federal court during the trial of William Kampiles, accused of stealing the manual and selling it to the Soviet Union.

Dirks said the satellite system, which is capable of photographing such things as troop movements, is vital to monitoring Russian compliance with strategic arms limitation agreements.

Dirks said the manual, prepared under his direction in 1976, was designed to explain the system to sources who use the photographs.

He said the manual was classified top secret because it explains exactly how the system works, and explains its capabilities and limitations.

He said 350 copies of the manual were printed.

Kampiles, the son of Greek immigrants, had worked briefly as a clerk for the CIA at its Langley, Va., headquarters, but resigned in November, 1977.

He was arrested at an apartment in Munster, Ind., in August and charged with six counts of espionage.

The prosecution contends Kampiles stole the manual and sold it to Russian agents, receiving \$3000 of a promised \$10,000.

Last week, an FBI agent testified that Kampiles confessed to the crime during questioning in Washington in August.

But, the defense says Kampiles wanted to be a double agent, and that he contacted Soviet agents in Athens and offered to sell them top-secret government information.

When they accepted his offer last March, the defense says Kampiles went to CIA officials, told them of his meetings with the Soviets, and offered to continue in the role of double agent.

Instead, an investigation was conducted and Kampiles was arrested.

Associated Press