

Sweeping Security Probe Is Ordered at Pentagon

By Charles R. Babcock
Washington Post Staff Writer

Defense Department officials ordered a sweeping review yesterday of security measures at the Pentagon in reaction to the arrest of a Navy enlisted man who allegedly boasted of walking out of his sensitive office with top secret documents.

Carl B. Feldbaum, the Pentagon's inspector general for defense intelligence, said in a telephone interview that he was asked to conduct an independent investigation of document, building and personnel security in light of the espionage charges filed against Lee Eugene Madsen, 24, a special security officer for the intelligence community's Strategic Warning Staff.

Madsen is accused of stealing highly classified documents and selling them to an undercover FBI agent. He allegedly took the agent on a late night tour of his office after using a phony name to sign the agent past two guards.

He later stuffed a "top secret" document about Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact military strength down his pants

and walked back past the guards, the FBI said in court papers.

"Our security procedures are honed and generally well thought out," Feldbaum said. "But I'll take a look at everything to see if there is a systematic problem that we can fix."

He said, for instance, that he will check why security guards in the super-sensitive area where Madsen worked were from the General Services Administration rather than the military.

The Central Intelligence Agency undertook a similar review of its security measures a year ago after William Kamplles, a low-ranking CIA officer was arrested and convicted for stealing a top secret spy satellite manual and selling it to the Soviet Union.

A CIA official said yesterday that the review resulted in tightened procedures, including more frequent checks of briefcases of departing employees. "But the bottom line is you've got to trust somebody. You can't make everyone strip and take a shower each night on the way home to make sure they're not taking something with them."

Sailor Accused of Espionage Wanted to 'Buy Things'

By Stephanie Mansfield
Washington Post Staff Writer

Lee Eugene Madsen, the 24-year-old Navy enlistee man accused of selling top secret Pentagon documents, "wanted money . . . to buy things" and was "very confident that he wouldn't get caught," his roommate said in an interview yesterday.

"I warned him, but he wouldn't listen to me," said Gary Miller, 23, in a tearful interview in Alexandria's U.S. courthouse as he waited for Madsen to appear in court. "He knew what he was doing," Miller said.

Miller said that his roommate, charged with smuggling a top secret document out of the Pentagon in his pants, "had a swollen head" and was convinced he would not be arrested.

In the interview Miller also said he had "tossed in the trashcan" a classified document Madsen had brought to their Northern Virginia apartment in March. "It was just in the way," Miller said yesterday. "I didn't have any use for it."

Madsen, a special security officer for the Pentagon's Strategic Warning Staff, "wanted to have some extra money around. He sort of thought this [selling documents] was a clever way of dealing. But he was in a before-the-really knew what he had done," Miller said.

The two men were planning to move to Los Angeles in October when Madsen was released from the Navy, Miller said yesterday, warning his

hands. Now, he added, "I think my friend's in a lot of trouble."

Pale and shaking, the Navy petty officer appeared before a federal judge in Alexandria yesterday morning and was ordered held on \$250,000 bond on espionage charges. During the 10-minute hearing before District Judge John A. MacKenzie, Madsen, wearing blue slacks and an orange short-sleeved shirt, requested a court-appointed attorney.

He was arrested by FBI agents Tuesday night in a bedroom of the Baileys Crossroads apartment he shares with Miller and two other men. "He was calm," Miller recalled yesterday. "But it was a shock to all of us."

Shortly before his arrest, a federal grand jury in Alexandria had returned a sealed eight-count indictment against the Arkansas-born Navy yeoman, accusing him of stealing eight government documents for \$700 and transmitting them to two unauthorized people this month. If convicted, Madsen faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on each count.

Miller, who described himself as Madsen's "best friend" said they had lived together for six months at the Woodlark Towers complex off Rte. 50 in Fairfax County. They had planned to attend motel management school together after Madsen's tour of duty ended Oct. 16, said Miller, who works in the accounting department of an Arlington firm that supplies part-time office workers.

Miller said his roommate owns a 1974 Chevrolet Vega and wanted money "to buy a new car." Now, Miller said, "Lee knows what's going to happen. But he's very strong."

Madsen is scheduled to be arraigned on the charges Friday morning.

According to FBI affidavits, the bizarre case began July 26 when Black Noble, a man described by Miller as a mutual friend, told the FBI that Madsen has asked him if he knew anyone willing to buy secret drug intelligence reports compiled by the Drug Enforcement Agency and Central Intelligence Agency.

Noble then was enlisted as an undercover agent by the FBI, supplied with marked money and a hidden tape recorder to obtain various secret documents, the affidavit said.

The investigation eventually led to a meeting—arranged by Noble—between Madsen and a FBI agent, William Chapin, who posed as a Florida drug smuggler, the affidavit states.

The FBI man said he was taken by Madsen to the Pentagon last Friday where the agent signed a phony name on the register and was given a tour of Madsen's office.

When Chapin asked Madsen what was the most sensitive document in the room, Madsen allegedly produced a secret report "USSR Warsaw Pact General Instructor Lister." According to the affidavit, Madsen ticked the document "under his vest and down his pants," walked past security guards and gave it to Chapin.

"I knew he took documents home," said Miller yesterday. "He kept them in a black briefcase. Last Friday night Lee and I had a fight over it. But I suppose money was more important to him."

Miller said after that "everything happened so fast. Lee woke up one morning and said, 'Wow, I can't believe I did it. I suppose he thought I



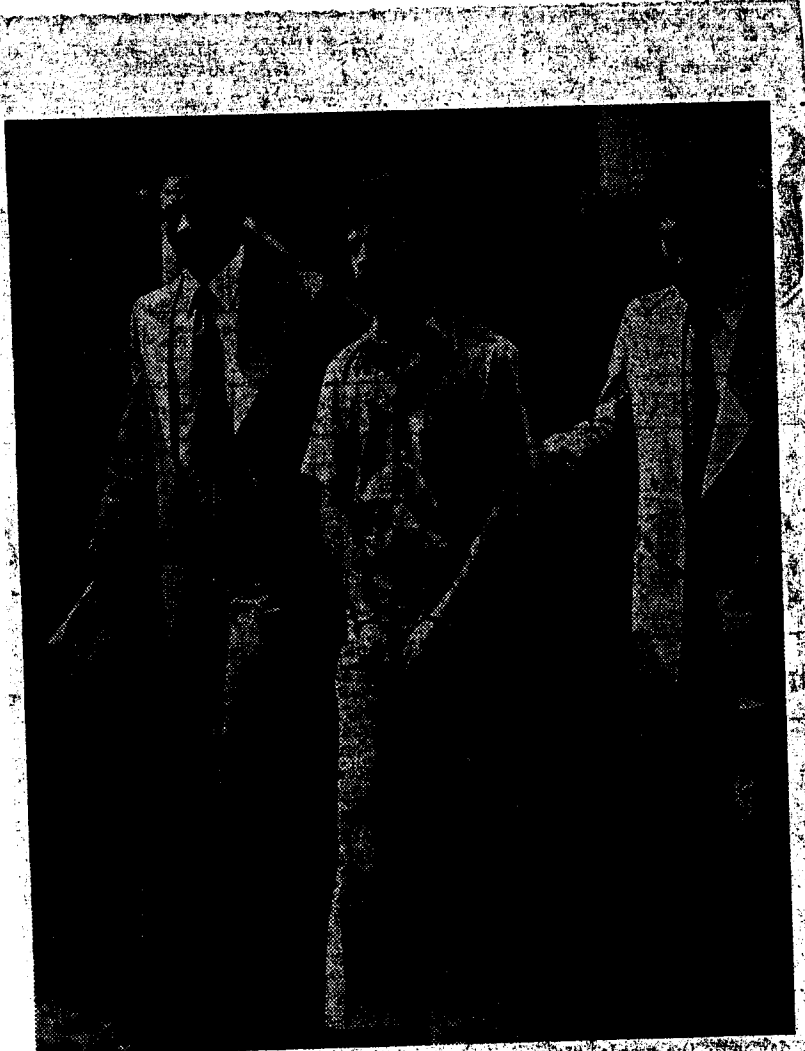
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Miller said yesterday that he had been taken to Madsen's office. "I went in one Sunday to help him distribute some wires," he recalled. "Everything was marked 'classified' and 'top secret.'"

Miller recalled how simple it was to enter the building and how casual Madsen was about his job. "I guess I thought of the Pentagon that way, too," he said.

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Lee Eugene Madsen, charged with selling documents, is led from courthouse.