2 Arrested by FBI On Spying Charges

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By Stan Crock
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FBI agents yesterday arrested a Rockville mathematician and a New York diamond setter on spying charges involving defense secrets passed to the Soviet Union, the Justice Department announced.

Three other men who have returned to Russia also were involved in the alleged conspiracy, according to FBI affidavits filed with criminal complaints in New York and Baltimore. One of the three left the United States Wednesday.

Those arrested were Sahag K. Dedeyan, 41, of 16209 Grist Mill Dr. in Rockville and Sarkis O. Paskalian, 36, of New York City.

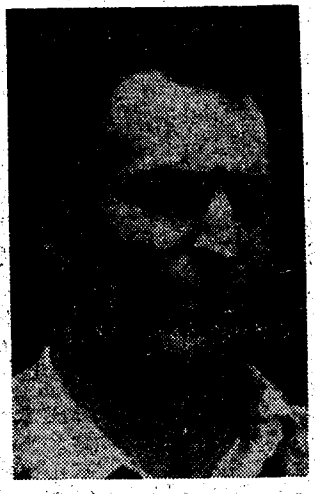
Paskalian, accused of conspiracy to gather classified national defense information, photographed a study his distant cousin, Dedeyan, had prepared, the FBI said. Paskalian later told Dedeyan he took the pictures, but Dedeyan did not tell his superiors, the bureau said. Dedeyan was charged with failing to report the illegal photographing of national defense information, which concerned the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

If convicted, Paskalian faces the death penalty or life imprisonment, and Dedeyan could be sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined $10,000.

The charges stem from a series of contracts between the two cousins in 1972 and 1973 that led to Paskalian's photographing of a study Dedeyan had prepared entitled "Vulnerability Analysis; U.S. Reinforcement of NATO," the FBI affidavits said. Paskalian passed the photographs to an official of the Soviet Mission in New York, the FBI said.

The official was Eduard B. Charchyan, a third secretary at the mission from October, 1971, to May 1974. Others allegedly involved are Abdulk-

See ARRESTS, A3, Col. 5



SARKAS O. PASKALIAN
. . . accused of conspiracy

SAHAG K. DEDEYAN
. . . prepared study

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ARRESTS, From A1

halik Magomedovich Gadzhiyev, another third secretary in the mission from June 1972 until Wednesday, and Petros Petrosyan, a suspected Soviet intelligence agent who was in this country for only a month.

Dedeyan, a naturalized U.S. citizen born in Lebanon, was an assistant mathematician for the Applied Physics Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University in Silver Spring. He held the job, which required a top-security clearance, from 1966 until September, 1973, when he left for Operation Research Inc., also in Silver Spring. He stopped working there at the beginning of this week, an FBI official said.

Paskalian, a resident alien also born in Lebanon, was the director of performing arts at the Armenian General Benevolent Union in New York, a cultural group, until two months ago. He recently set up and maintained a stall as a diamond setter on New York's "Diamond Row."

The addidavits, which the FBI said were based on interviews with the two men, told the following story:

Paskalian was recruited as a spy in Armenia, one of the Soviet republics, in 1962. In the summer of 1971, he was sent to the United States to meet Petrosyan in Queens.

Paskalian later met Charchyan, who gave him a camera and told him to establish ties with Dedeyan to photograph secret documents. After several meetings with Dedeyan, the mathematician showed his cousin the NATO study without knowing he was a spy. In March, 1973, Paskalian photographed the documents. Several months later, he told Dedeyan of his espionage work and asked him to keep quiet about it. Dedeyan agreed. Paskalian allegedly received about $1,500 for his work and in May, 1974, gave Dedeyan $1,000 to keep his mouth shut, Assistant U. S. Attorney James Anderson said in Baltimore.

Dedeyan was arrested at his home at 9 a.m yesterday and appeared before a U.S. magistrate in Baltimore at 4 p.m. He was permitted to post 10 per cent of the $20,000 bond and was released.

His attorney, Phillip Sutley, said his client would plead innocent. Dedeyan said nothing as he left the courthouse.

A grand jury is expected to be convened to hear the case within two weeks, Assistant U. S. Attorney James Anderson said.

Paskalian was arrested at 10:30 a.m. in his New York store. Bail was set at $100,000 and he was returned to the West Street jail in Manhattan. A grand jury is expected to be called later in New York. The men will be tried separately, Anderson said.

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley told a House Judiciary subcommittee Wednesday that the United States has been designated a "Prime target" for Communist-bloc intelligence agencies. Kelley opposed legislation that would require court orders for national security wiretaps.

The FBI warned in its 1974 annual report of an "inordinate increase" in Soviet-bloc officials here and emphasized that the increase "has required the FBI to assign additional personnel to maintain the constant vigilance necessary to detect and deal with foreign-inspired threats to the security of the United States."

The last espionage incident involving the Soviet Union occurred in 1973 when James David Wood, a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, was arrested with numerous classified documents at a meeting with Viktor A. Chernyshev, a first secretary in the Soviet Embassy here. Wood later pleaded guilty before a military tribunal.