

CIA Operative Who Accused Agency Is Fired

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9/16/66

The Central Intelligence Agency said yesterday that it is firing Hans V. Tofte, the high-level CIA operative who accused the agency of staging an unconstitutional "stupid cloak and dagger raid" on his Georgetown home two months ago.

The agency did not disclose its reasons for the dismissal, which takes effect in 30 days and cannot be appealed. In a press release on Aug. 2, however, CIA said that "by chance another of its employes, Kenneth R. Slocum, had found classified agency material exposed in the Tofte home. A violation of security regulations had occurred the release said.

Tofte, who began his intelligence career in the World War II anti-Nazi underground, termed his dismissal an arbitrary action that portends danger to all American citizens "from an invisible government."

He said that CIA had used the security issue to justify the raid on the home at 1867 35th st. nw.

The justification is "absurd in the light of agency practices and the contents of the classified papers — and the highest officials within the CIA know it," Tofte said.

Slocum had come to the Tofte home as a prospective tenant to look at a basement apartment; he found the papers on the third floor. The "raid" followed next day, when Slocum, his wife and another CIA employe used a pretext to induce Tofte's 86-year-old mother-in-law to let them in. Tofte and his wife were away.

The papers were removed. After the Toftes returned, they reported to police that \$20,000 in jewels also were missing. The jewels have not been recovered.

Tofte was suspended from

his \$25,000-a-year post, and a secret investigation was launched by a CIA board of inquiry.

Joseph C. Goodwin, special assistant to CIA Director Richard Helms, said yesterday that Tofte's dismissal was recommended by the board, which had considered the raid, the jewel theft, the publicity generated by the episode and Tofte's "whole association" with CIA.

Tofte, 55, is a Danish-born World War II hero of underground and Office of Strategic Services operations in Denmark, Italy, Yugoslavia, Burma and North Africa.