

Troubling New Find Deepens

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Special to The Chronicle

Washington

Authoritative government officials believe that the mysterious death last September of retired CIA nuclear-arms expert John Arthur Paisley may be linked to a major internal security breach affecting the Central Intelligence Agency.

This conclusion is based to a significant extent on the discovery that "current" top secret CIA documents — and not two-year old papers of a lower classification as believed earlier — had been found after Paisley's disappearance aboard his sloop, the Brillig, in his Washington apartment and in his office at a public accountant's firm, where he held an administrative post in the last five months of his life.

The fact that Paisley had access to super-secret intelligence data for years after his formal retirement from the CIA and a year after he was said to have completed a sensitive consultative assignment for the agency was disclosed privately yesterday by government sources.

It was also learned that Colonel Norman Wilson, a retired Air Force intelligence official and the last man to have talked with Paisley before his disappearance, left last Monday for Australia with his wife. An unidentified man answering the telephone at the Wilson home on Chesapeake Bay described it as a three- or four-month-long trip that had been planned for some time. But government sources expressed surprise at his departure while the investigation of Paisley's death is being expanded.



UPI Telephoto

JOHN A. PAISLEY

The new information came to He was a nuclear-arms expert

CIA Mystery

light after the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence requested the FBI Wednesday to take over its three-month inquiry into this latest CIA mystery. The committee said it had taken the action because it had come across "a number of troubling questions" and because the FBI has "primary jurisdiction over counter-intelligence matters within the United States."

Government sources said that it is not possible to rule out the theory that the Paisley affair touches on the existence of a Soviet "mole" (a deep-cover Soviet agent planted inside the agency) and the dead officer's knowledge thereof. The theory has been the subject of speculation for years inside and outside the intelligence community.

At first, the CIA claimed that the documents in Paisley's posses-

sion were relatively unimportant papers classified "for internal use only." Later it acknowledged that Paisley had kept materials pertaining to the top secret study of Soviet nuclear capabilities conducted in late 1977 by a CIA group and an outside panel of experts known as "Team B." It also admitted that Paisley had served as coordinator of "Team B."

The agency, including its director, Admiral Stansfield Turner, was also said to have initially misinformed the White House and the Senate committee concerning Paisley's actual importance during his formal CIA career and afterwards. It was an effort to portray Paisley as simply a CIA analyst while, in reality, he had participated in numerous top-level clandestine intelligence operations.