

AF Sergeant In Red Spy

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Arrested Conspiracy

Soviet Diplomat To Be Expelled For Role in Plot

From News Dispatches

The FBI announced the arrest yesterday of a German-born U.S. Air Force staff sergeant on charges of conspiring to commit espionage with a Soviet diplomat stationed in Washington.

The sergeant, Herbert William Boeckenhaupt, 23, was taken into custody at March Air Force Base, Riverside, Calif., at 5:58 p.m. EST. He would face a death penalty if convicted.

Sources said the diplomat, Aleksey R. Malinin, assistant commercial counselor at the Soviet Embassy, would be declared persona non grata and ordered to leave the country.

FBI officials describe it as a "major" spy case.

National Defense Involved

The FBI said Boeckenhaupt is accused of conspiring with Malinin to deliver to the Soviet Union "information relating to the national defense of the United States."

The agency refused to say whether any money was involved. Nor would it say whether any information actually was passed.

The Justice Department filed the charges against Boeckenhaupt in U.S. District Court at Los Angeles. The Government recommended \$50,000 bail.

Extensive Investigation

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said the Bureau and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations "have been conducting an extensive investigation into Boeckenhaupt's activities for the past several months."

The complaint charged that Boeckenhaupt met Malinin during June, 1965, in a rural area of Arlington, when Boeckenhaupt was serving at the Pentagon.

FBI officials said the sergeant also met Malinin in April, 1966, at a bowling alley

parking lot and received from the Soviet diplomat "a 35 millimeter slide which contained the location of 'drop areas' and 'meeting' places."

The complaint also charged that Boeckenhaupt mailed a letter to England last May. The FBI refused to give any details of the letter's contents, which presumably will be used as evidence in the case. The complaint said, however, that Boeckenhaupt received a reply to the letter last September.

Known as 'Robert'

Hoover said Malinin was known as "Robert" to Boeckenhaupt.

Malinin, 45, has been with the Soviet Embassy here since December, 1963. He is married and lives at 6166 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church.

Boeckenhaupt and his family live in Riverside, Calif.

He was born in Mannheim, Germany, came to the United

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States in 1948 and obtained U.S. citizenship through his naturalized parents.

Boeckenhaupt entered the Air Force in 1960 and was assigned to the Pentagon from April, 1964, to August, 1965. The FBI would not say what kind of job he held at the Pentagon nor what was his other Air Force duties had been.

After he left the Pentagon, Boeckenhaupt was assigned to

a specialized training school at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex., from August, 1965 to April, 1966. Since April, 1966, he has been at March Air Force Base.

The FBI said that his second meeting with Malinin in April, 1966, took place when he was between assignments from Lackland to March Air Force Base.

Boeckenhaupt has also served at Keesler Field, Biloxi, Miss.; Columbus Air Force Base, Columbus, Miss.; Sidi Slimane Air Force Base, Morocco; and Andrews Air Force Base, Md.