

CIA Files Found in Home Of Arrested Ex-Agent

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By Robert Meyers
and Lawrence Meyer
Washington Post Staff Writer

Boxes of material, including documents relating to the workings of the Central Intelligence Agency, were seized early yesterday morning from the home of a former CIA employee accused of trying to sell secrets to the Soviet government.

The material was taken by several dozen FBI agents after a six-hour search of Edwin Gibbon Moore II's \$120,000 Bethesda home early Thursday morning, according to FBI sources.

FBI agents, who say they are familiar with previous attempts at selling American documents to foreign governments, are poring over the seized material, according to agency sources.

Two type-written notes that accompanied the original sales offer indicated the Soviets could purchase classified documents, including the names and locations of CIA agents, informers, and safe houses, for \$200,000, according to an affidavit filed yesterday in U.S. District Court, in Baltimore.

However, the FBI has not yet determined if the material taken from Moore, who retired from the CIA in 1973 after 22 years of service, contained the material offered in the notes.

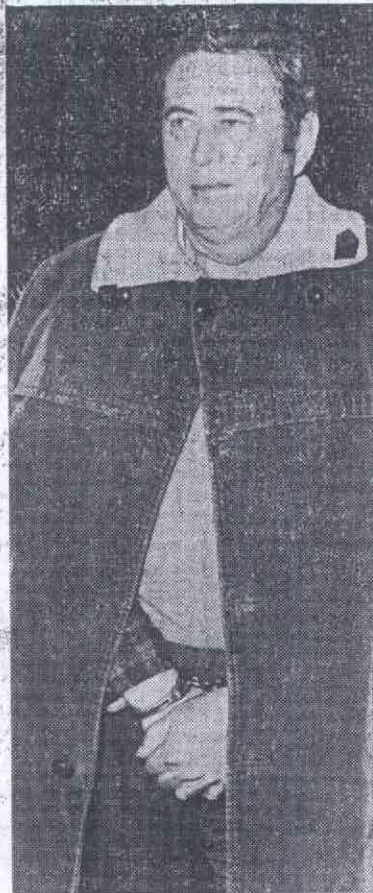
Moore, 56, 4800 Fort Sumner Dr., was arrested Wednesday afternoon after he allegedly tried to pick up a package left by the FBI in response to the espionage offer. He is currently being held under a \$150,000 surety bond in the Montgomery County detention center.

His wife, Maribelle R. Moore, his attorneys, and children, have all refused comment. Moore, a thickset man with black hair, also reportedly refused to talk with federal officials as he was arraigned late Wednesday night before U.S. Magistrate F. Archie Meatyard Jr.

Federal officials say they have no indication that anyone other than Moore was involved in the alleged espionage attempt.

The federal search of Moore's three-story brick home began at 9:52 p.m. Wednesday and ended at 4:08 a.m. Thursday, according to FBI sources. As FBI agents made their room-to-room search, authorized by a warrant signed by Magistrate Meatyard, an FBI agent stood guard out front, keeping neighbors and children away, bystanders reported. The seized material was then taken to FBI offices in Washington, according to sources.

Until Wednesday night Moore had never been in the public eye and seemed to be leading a typical if slightly eccentric suburban life.



EDWIN G. MOORE
... maintains silence.

Neighbors say he liked to work on late-model American cars in his driveway, and often restored wooden furniture himself.

Several residents reported he is a fervent anticommunist, often engaging neighbors in conversation on the subject of freedom and tyranny.

Another neighbor said the family kept "several dozen cats" in their home.

Mrs. Moore is a "freelance legal secretary ... one of the best," according to a coworker at Wald, Harkrader & Ross, a Washington law firm.

Montgomery County court records show that the Moores have owned their comfortable home since June 20, 1960, when they took out a \$35,000 mortgage on it. That mortgage, repayable at \$225.51 a month, is still in effect.

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SUSPECT, From B1

A second loan on the house, for \$7,000, also taken out June 21, 1960, was repaid by 1968. A \$12,800 loan taken out in 1967 was retired in 1975, and a \$9,108.36 loan taken out in 1969 was also retired in 1975, records show.

Moore's family once owned a large tract of land in North Carolina, which was sold several years ago to a developer, sources in North Carolina said. The family is still involved in real-estate in the area, they added.

Moore's mother, Selma Carson Moore, a native of Bethel, N.C., worked at the State Department in Washington before her death in 1963. She had moved to this area in 1942, lived with her son and his family on Fort Sumner Drive, and was a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Daughters of the American Revolution, according to news reports.

Federal officials said they do not have an explanation for Moore's alleged espionage attempt. However, attempts at selling classified U.S. documents to Soviet and other foreign powers occur with some regularity, FBI sources said.

Because of those experiences, which normally are not publically acknowledged, sources were able to characterize the alleged \$200,000 selling price as "quite high."

"I don't think the KGB (Soviet intelligence) would have paid that much," one government source said. "The Soviets have their own evaluation" procedure for U.S. documents. "I'm sure the KGB has its own budgetary problems, too," he said.