

Scientist gets 3 years in spy case

From the New York Times

BALTIMORE — A Rockville, Md., mathematician has been sentenced to three years in prison for his part in transmitting a defense document to the Soviet Union.

The document was a study of the United States' ability to reinforce NATO in the event of a Russian attack on Western Europe.

Sahag K. Dedeayan, 41, was sentenced Friday by U. S. District Judge Alexander Harvey for failing to report that his cousin, Sarkis O. Paskalian, a Soviet spy and Manhattan jeweler, had photographed part of the document.

Dedeayan could have been sentenced to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Paskalian, 36, pleaded guilty to spy charges in September 1975 in Brooklyn, N. Y. Federal court, and was sentenced to 22 years in jail.

Both were arrested on June 27, 1975. Dedeayan was apprehended at his home, 1 1/2 hours after Paskalian

was taken into custody in New York.

According to court papers filed by the FBI, Paskalian photographed the document in Dedeayan's home in March, 1973, with a camera furnished by Eduard B. Chanchyan, then an official of the Soviet mission to the United Nations.

Dedeayan was convicted in July after a trial centering on a document that the defendant prepared while employed by the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory at the time he worked on the study.

Although Dedeayan did not testify, statements he gave to the FBI were introduced in evidence.

He said in the statements that it was not until several months after the March, 1973, incident that he learned that Paskalian was an agent and had photographed the document.

Expert military and civilian witnesses at Dedeayan's trial differed over the document's relationship to national security.

The defense contended throughout the nine-day trial that Dedeayan, who was not authorized to classify material, had marked the report secret and that, therefore, there was no crime since the report was not properly classified.

The judge said he was sure that the law under which Dedeayan was charged did not concern classification of documents but rather disclosure of information to national security.