

GERMAN SECURITY PROBE

S-1
10/30/68

Czech Newsman Is Spy Suspect

BONN, Germany (AP)—Federal security officers questioned a correspondent of the official Czechoslovak news agency CTK today as a spy suspect.

The correspondent, Otakar Svercina, 43, said of his detention: "This is a provocation . . . espionage mania."

HIS AGENCY protested the arrest, declaring: "The consequences can cause serious complications in relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany."

A West German prosecutor revealed yesterday that a U.S.-made Sidewinder air-to-air missile was stolen by Communist espionage agents from a German air base and shipped by air freight to Moscow. Two men have been arrested in connection with the theft and officials declined to identify a third man they said was involved.

A fellow correspondent, Karel Cisar, said Svercina was accused on the basis of statements made by a Czechoslovak army major who recently fled to the West and by Josef Adamek, editorial secretary of the

Austrian federal press service, who was arrested last Thursday in Vienna on suspicion of espionage.

DURING A 30-minute interval in which police allowed him to visit his office in Bonn, Svercina looked calm and unworried. Slightly built, with thinning gray hair, he has been a correspondent here for four years. He is married and has one child.

A spokesman for the Justice Ministry confirmed Svercina's detention as a suspected spy and said he had been released on condition that he stay available for further questioning.

West Germany's security system is under urgent study as a result of several mysterious deaths and disappearances

See SPY— Page 4

FOUR

WEDNESDAY

Spy--

Continued from Page 1

this month. A key case seemed to be the death of Rear Adm. Hermann Luedke, a retired officer of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, killed by gunshot 15 days after

a microfilm of top secret NATO documents was traced to him Sept. 23.

Deaths

GUTTIERREZ—On Tuesday, October 29 1968, at 7:45 o'clock p. m., MAE PE TERSEN, beloved wife of Oscar Gutierrez; mother of Emile, Joseph, Nicolas and James Gutierrez, Mrs. Jastran, Mrs. Joseph Milton Carson.