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NYT

F.B.I. Continues Investigation Of How Times Got Secret Study

The Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington said yesterday that it was continuing its investigation to determine how The New York Times obtained a copy of the secret Pentagon study on Vietnam.

In Boston, reporters tried to find Daniel Ellsberg, a former Government adviser now with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, after reports in New York and Washington that he gave the study to The Times. Mr. Ellsberg worked as a strategic analyst for the RAND Corporation, a "think tank" that performs research for the Defense Department, before becoming a special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense in 1964. A year later he went to South Vietnam for two years with the Defense Department.

The F.B.I. refused to comment on the reports that Mr. Ellsberg had been identified as the source. But it was learned that he had become a primary subject of the investigation as early as last Monday when the second article on the Pentagon was published in The Times.

His Background Checked

The bureau's offices in Boston, New York and several other cities checked on Mr. Ellsberg's background and on his recent statements on the Vietnam war.

A. M. Rosenthal, managing editor of The Times, said The Times "would not discuss the question of sources at all."

Mr. Ellsberg was last at his office on Wednesday. He acknowledged to a report who talked with him on the telephone then that he had worked

on the study, but he refused to discuss his role in it.

"I'm glad the stuff is out," he told the reporter about the publication of parts of the study. "I think it's a good thing for the country. Congress is entitled to get it and apparently has been unable to get it."

Mr. Ellsberg was named as the source of the study by Sidney Zion, a former Times reporter and editor of the defunct magazine Scanlon's Monthly, on the Barry Gray program on WMCA radio late Wednesday night. (6 June 71)

He was also named in an article from the Washington bureau of The St. Louis-Post Dispatch published yesterday. The story quoted a "senior official of the executive branch who is fully familiar with the case" as having said that the investigation as to who revealed the study was "centering" on Mr. Ellsberg.

During the WMCA radio program, Adam Walinsky, who was the Democratic candidate for State Attorney General last year, phoned Mr. Gray and asked to go on the air to make a statement. He then described Mr. Zion's statement as "irresponsible and outrageous."

At a news conference called by Mr. Zion yesterday, he said he had appeared on the radio program "to satisfy my own ego."

Mr. Zion later was denounced by two other former editors of Scanlon's.

Warren Hinckle, the co-editor, and Thomas Humber, the managing editor, said, in a joint statement, "Sidney Zion's reprehensible act is that of a publicity-seeking scavenger."