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U R G E N T

FIRST LEAD ESPIONAGE

WASHINGTON, JULY 12 (AP)-A RETIRED ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF WAS ARRESTED TODAY ON CHARGES OF CONSPIRING TO DELIVER TO THE SOVIET UNION DATA RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCING THE ARREST BY FBI AGENTS ON THE BASIS OF AN INDICTMENT BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY AT NEWPORT NEWS, VA., IDENTIFIED THE FORMER OFFICER AS WILLIAM HENRY WHALEN, 51, NOW UNEMPLOYED. HE WAS ARRESTED IN SUBURBAN ALEXANDRIA, VA., WHERE HE NOW LIVES.

U. S. COMMISSIONER ALEX AKERMAN AT ALEXANDRIA SET BOND AT \$15,000.

WHALEN POSTED BOND SEVERAL HOURS LATER AND WAS RELEASED.

NAMED AS CO-CONSPIRATORS WITH WHALEN ARE TWO RUSSIAN NATIONALS WHO WERE FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SAID. IT SAID THEY WERE NOT CHARGED BECAUSE THEY ARE NO LONGER IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE DEPARTMENT SAID WHALEN WAS ARRESTED ON THE BASIS OF A FEDERAL INDICTMENT RETURNED TODAY BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY AT NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THE CHARGES AGAINST WHALEN STEM FROM HIS ACTIVITY WHILE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.

HOOVER SAID WHALEN IS SPECIFICALLY ACCUSED OF CONSPIRING WITH TWO FORMER OFFICIALS OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, COL. SERGEL EDEMSKI AND MIKHAIL A. SHUNAEV, TO UNLAWFULLY OBTAIN AND DELIVER TO THE SOVIET UNION DATA RELATING TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE INDICTMENT CHARGES WHALEN MET WITH ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE RUSSIANS ON EIGHT SEPARATE OCCASIONS AT A SHOPPING CENTER IN ALEXANDRIA.

ON FIVE OCCASIONS, THE INDICTMENT CHARGES, WHALEN RECEIVED \$1,000 AND ONE OCCASION \$500 FROM SHUNAEV, WHO WAS KNOWN AS "MIKE."

THE INDICTMENT ACCUSES WHALEN OF DELIVERING TO THE SOVIETS

FROM EARLY 1959 TO EARLY 1963 INFORMATION "PERTAINING TO ATOMIC WEAPONRY, MISSILES, MILITARY PLANS FOR THE DEFENSE OF EUROPE, ESTIMATES OF COMPARATIVE MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE REPORTS AND ANALYSES, INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RETALIATION PLANS BY THE U.S. STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND AND INFORMATION PERTAINING TO TROOP MOVEMENTS,"

IT SAID WHALEN OBTAINED THE INFORMATION SOLD TO THE RUSSIANS BY MAKING NOTES FROM DOCUMENTS IN THE FILES OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF RELATING TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES AND FROM ENGAGING IN CONVERSATIONS WITH FELLOW OFFICERS.

THE INDICTMENT ALSO SAID AS A PART OF THE CONSPIRACY WHALEN WAS TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT BY THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AFTER HIS RETIREMENT.

IT SAID IN OR ABOUT OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER 1962, WHALEN SOUGHT EMPLOYMENT AT THE PENTAGON.

MAXIMUM PENALTY ON CONVICTION OF THE ESPIONAGE CONSPIRACY CHARGE IS DEATH.

HOOVER SAID WHALEN SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY AS AN OFFICER IN THE U.S. ARMY FROM OCTOBER 15, 1940 TO FEBRUARY 3, 1961 AT WHICH TIME HE WAS RETIRED ON PHYSICAL DISABILITY.

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WHALEN WAS ASSIGNED TO THE EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS FROM MAY 1945 TO DECEMBER 1947 AND LATER SERVED IN JAPAN FROM FEBRUARY 1952 TO MAY 1955.

IN JULY 1955, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE ARMY INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICE IN WASHINGTON AFTER WHICH HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE STAFF OF THE OFFICE OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF AT THE PENTAGON WHERE HE SERVED UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT.

HOOVER SAID WHALEN'S ESPIONAGE EFFORTS WERE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH PROVIDING INFORMATION RELATING TO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE MATTERS. HE SAID THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY PROVIDED FOR THE PAYMENT OF VARIOUS SUMS OF MONEY TO WHALEN.

WHALEN WAS ARRAIGNED BEFORE U.S. COMMISSIONER ALEX AKIERMAN JR. IN ALEXANDRIA WHERE BAIL WAS SET AT \$15,000. MEANWHILE HE WAS TURNED OVER TO U.S. MARSHALS, AFTER BEING PERMITTED TO TELEPHONE HIS WIFE.

EDEMSKI, FORMERLY ASSISTANT SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE, RETURNED TO RUSSIA IN FEBRUARY 1960, AND SHUMAEV, FORMER FIRST SECRETARY, LEFT THE UNITED STATES FOR RUSSIA ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1963.

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