

A182WX (SPOT)

FBI - II

12 July 1966
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WX LOCALS OUT

SECOND LEAD ESPIONAGE

WASHINGTON, JULY 12 (AP)-THE FBI ARRESTED A RETIRED ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL TODAY ON CHARGES HE SOLD MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SECRETS TO RUSSIAN AGENTS.

AN INDICTMENT RETURNED BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY AT NEWPORT NEWS, VA., CHARGED WILLIAM HENRY WHALEN, 51, WITH CONSPIRING TO COMMIT ESPIONAGE--A CRIME PUNISHABLE BY DEATH. IN JULY 1955, WHALEN WAS ASSIGNED TO THE ARMY INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICE IN WASHINGTON AND LATER SERVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.

THE INDICTMENT CHARGED THAT ON SIX OCCASIONS BETWEEN DECEMBER 1959 AND MARCH 1961 WHALEN RECEIVED PAYMENTS TOTALING \$5,500 FROM TWO OFFICIALS OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

THE TWO SOVIET OFFICIALS --SERGEI EDEMSKI AND MIKHAIL A. SHUMAEV (CQ)-- WERE NAMED AS COCONSPIRATORS BUT NOT CHARGED BECAUSE THEY HAVE LEFT THE UNITED STATES. EDEMSKI, FORMER ASSISTANT SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE, RETURNED TO RUSSIA IN FEBRUARY 1960. SHUMAEV, FORMER FIRST SECRETARY IN THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY, RETURNED TO RUSSIA IN SEPTEMBER 1963.

WHALEN'S ARMY DECORATIONS INCLUDE THE LEGION OF MERIT AND A COMMENDATION MEDAL. HE WAS RETIRED FROM THE ARMY IN 1961 ON A PHYSICAL DISABILITY.

WHALEN WAS ARRESTED AT HIS HOME IN ALEXANDRIA, VA. ARRAIGNED BEFORE U. S. COMMISSIONER ALEX AKERMAN IN ALEXANDRIA, HE WAS RELEASED IN \$15,000 BOND.

THE INDICTMENT CHARGED THAT THE CONSPIRACY PROVIDED FOR DELIVERY TO THE SOVIET AGENTS OF "PARTICULARLY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO ATOMIC WEAPONRY, MISSILES, MILITARY PLANS FOR DEFENSE OF EUROPE, ESTIMATES OF COMPARATIVE MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE REPORTS AND ANALYSES, INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RETALIATION PLANS BY THE UNITED STATES STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND AND INFORMATION PERTAINING TO TROOP MOVEMENTS...."

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THE INDICTMENT SAID THAT WHALEN WAS TO OBTAIN THE INFORMATION BY MAKING "NOTES FROM DOCUMENTS IN THE FILES OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF...." AND BY ENGAGING "IN CONVERSATIONS WITH FELLOW OFFICERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING INFORMATION...."

THE ONLY MOTIVE MENTIONED IN THE INDICTMENT WAS THAT AS PART OF THE CONSPIRACY WHALEN AND HIS COCONSPIRATORS "WOULD RECEIVE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND ITS AGENTS, OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES, "LARGE SUMS OF MONEY WITH WHICH TO CARRY ON THEIR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES."

PART OF THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY PROVIDED THAT UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ARMY WHALEN WOULD TRY TO GET A JOB IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER 1962, ACCORDING TO THE INDICTMENT, WHALEN TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO GET A JOB IN INTELLIGENCE WORK AT THE PENTAGON.

THE INDICTMENT SAID THAT ON FIVE OCCASIONS WHALEN RECEIVED \$1,000 AND ONCE \$500 AT A SHOPPING CENTER IN ALEXANDRIA.

WHALEN SERVED IN THE ARMY FROM OCTOBER 15, 1940, UNTIL 1961. WALTER GOLD, ETC., FIRST GRAF SECOND ADD (A166WX)

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WALTER GOLD, A REPORTER FOR THE WASHINGTON STAR, SAID HE CONTACTED MRS. WHALEN WITHIN 30 MINUTES AFTER HER HUSBAND WAS ARRESTED. HE SAID THAT HALF-WAY THROUGH HIS READING OF AN ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY CONCERNING HER HUSBAND'S ARREST SHE BROKE INTO TEARS AND SAID:

"I NEVER ASKED HIM QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT HE DID...WE'VE BEEN MARRIED 14 YEARS AND I KNEW HIM FOR SEVEN YEARS BEFORE THAT.

"I USED TO WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT TOO, SO I KNOW WHAT SECURITY IS...THAT'S WHY I NEVER ASKED ABOUT WHAT HE WAS DOING....I WASN'T EVEN ALLOWED TO GO INTO HIS OFFICE WHEN WE WERE IN JAPAN.

"I DON'T KNOW HOW THIS COULD HAPPEN....IT ISN'T POSSIBLE.... I DON'T BELIEVE IT, I DON'T BELIEVE IT, I'LL NEVER BELIEVE IT.

"WHAT IS GOING TO BECOME OF OUR DAUGHTER? I'M SO EMBARRASSED. WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD AGAIN....IT JUST ISN'T TRUE, IT JUST ISN'T TRUE--HE NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT THIS TO ME....OH, WHAT WILL I DO NOW--WHO'S GOING TO PAY ALL THESE BILLS."

GOLD SAID HE WAS TOLD BY THE FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY THAT IT HAD EMPLOYED WHALEN AS A PART-TIME LABORER DURING THE SUMMERS OF 1963, '64 AND '65, AND UNTIL JUNE 21 OF THIS YEAR WHEN HE WAS DISCHARGED.

AT THE TIME OF HIS DISMISSAL, THE AUTHORITY SAID HE WAS BEING PAID AT THE RATE OF \$1.79 AN HOUR. HE WAS HIRED IN 1963 AT \$1.40 AN HOUR.

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