

NYTimes FEB 18 1974
**Moorer Indicates High Nixon Officials
Rejected Plan for a Full Spy Inquiry**

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—Admiral Thomas H. Moorer suggested today that high civilian officials in the Nixon Administration overruled his recommendation for a full investigation of the alleged military spying activities. Such an inquiry, he contended, "would have uncovered the entire chain of events regardless of what they were."

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a television interview that "higher authority" had rebuffed his suggestion that judicial proceedings be initiated against Yeoman 1st Cl. Charles E. Radford, a Navy clerk who was accused in late 1971 of leaking documents to the press while on duty in the White House.

The Admiral told a Senate committee two weeks ago that he had requested a military investigation into the activities of Yeoman Radford. Before today, however, he had not publicly said that he expected the inquiry to embrace all of the yeoman's spying activities, including his role in funneling top-secret White House docu-

ments to the Pentagon.

"When an investigation of this kind is conducted, it covers the waterfront," the Admiral told interviewers on the National Broadcasting Company program, "Meet the Press."

Shortly after the Admiral's testimony Feb. 6 before the Senate Armed Services Committee, one of his assistants told newsmen that the Admiral had sought only to prosecute Yeoman Radford for his role in leaking White House documents on the India-Pakistan war to Jack Anderson, the columnist.

At that time, Admiral Moorer told newsmen that he had twice urged judicial proceedings against the yeoman for the leaks to Mr. Anderson. He said he had been told by J. Fred Buzhardt Jr., the White House assistant who was then general counsel for the Pentagon, that higher-ranking civilians had decided merely to transfer the yeoman out of Washington.

The Admiral essentially repeated that testimony today, but contended that the investigation he envisioned would have disclosed all of the yeoman's activities.

Since the military spying activities first became known last month, Admiral Moorer has reiterated that, at best, he was guilty only of a lapse in judgment in permitting two batches of documents from Yeoman Radford to cross his desk in mid-1971.

He has stated that he did not authorize the yeoman's activities and sought to deal properly with the yeoman's activities upon learning of their scope.

The Admiral and Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger have sought to depict Yeoman Radford as an "overexuberant" junior clerk.

Admiral Moorer minimized the spying incident again today, depicting it as "simply an exchange within the organization." He added that Yeoman Radford was, in effect, turned in by his superior in the military liaison unit in the White House, Rear Adm. Robert O. Welander.

"One can draw the conclusion," the Admiral said, "that if Admiral Welander felt there were all these sinister operations going on in his office that have been alleged, that he wouldn't have been so eager to . . . give this information."

In interviews with The New York Times, however, Yeoman Radford who is now stationed in Salem, Ore. — has contended that Admiral Welander and his predecessor specifically instructed and urged him to begin pilfering "eyes only" documents meant solely for President Nixon or Henry A. Kis-



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Adm. Thomas H. Moorer

singer, then the President's national security adviser.

Among the documents taken, Yeoman Radford said, were copies of Mr. Kissinger's reports to Mr. Nixon after Mr. Kissinger's secret trip to China in July, 1971. The yeoman contended that he had sufficient evidence to persuade the Senate Armed Services Committee, now investigating the spying issue, that Admiral Moorer knew of his activities. The yeoman is expected to appear before the committee this week.

A New York Times inquiry has substantiated the yeoman's contention that hundreds of documents were taken from the National Security Council's White House offices and relayed to Admiral Moorer's office.

One former high-ranking member of the Admiral's office acknowledged last week that he had received copies of White House documents from Admiral Welander in 1971.