

## Col. Whalen Pleads Guilty In Soviet Spying

Alexandria, Va.

Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel William Henry Whalen pleaded guilty yesterday to a charge of conspiring with Soviet agents to obtain documents connected with United States National Defense.

At the same time, an espionage charge against the gray-haired former officer, 51, was dropped during an hour-long hearing in Federal District Court.

The Justice Department indicated last month that it might decide not to try Whalen on the espionage charge if the court suppressed a series of statements that Whalen gave to FBI agents in 1964 and 1965.

*Associated Press*

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## Ex-Colonel Pleads Guilty of Plotting With Soviet Agents

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 16 (AP)—William Henry Whalen, a retired Army lieutenant colonel, pleaded guilty today to a charge of conspiring with Soviet agents to obtain documents connected with United States national defense.

At the same time, an espionage charge against the former officer, who is 51 years old, was dropped during a hearing in Federal District Court. Trial on the charge had been scheduled to begin Monday.

The Justice Department had indicated last month that it might not try Mr. Whalen on the espionage charge if the court suppressed a series of statements that he gave to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1964 and 1965.

Mr. Whalen also pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiring with Soviet agents to act as a representative of the Soviet Union without registering with the Secretary of State. This was one of three counts in an indictment returned last July.

After the guilty pleas, Judge Oren R. Lewis revoked Mr. Whalen's \$15,000 bond and ordered him held in the custody of United States marshals until a probation report is submitted.