

Why Ellsberg Feels Good

Washington

Daniel Ellsberg said yesterday that because of the entanglement of the Watergate affair with his prosecution, he now believes his revelation of the Pentagon Papers accomplished far more than he at first set out to do.

Ellsberg was asked just what he thought leaking the documents had accomplished, since it had not resulted in immediately ending the war.

"A few months ago, I thought my actions had had a rather limited effect," Ellsberg said.

"And during the bombing last December, I was despairing, as a citizen, that they had accomplished anything.

"When I did it, of course, I just thought it was what I ought to do. But lately, since my trial led to the revelation of the burglary of my psychiatrist's office, the violation of the doctor-client privilege and the invasion of a citizen's privacy, I think these revelations have been

very important."

Ellsberg was interviewed on NBC's "Meet the Press."

He said he believes that "quite a bit of what we learn about Watergate will have come from the revelations from my trial."

The former strategic analyst for the Rand Corp. and the Defense Department

said that when he copied the papers he believed he was breaking a law against revealing classified documents to the U.S. Senate or to newspapermen.

"I have learned, through two years of a very expensive education, that no such law exists," Ellsberg said.

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