

Navy Clerk Talks About Spy Orders

Washington

Navy Yeoman First Class Charles E. Radford said last night, for the first time, that he had passed secret White House documents to his military superiors at their direction.

Radford told a CBS radio station in Oregon that his information-gathering activities were "not done at my own initiative."

Later, CBS News reported that Radford had subsequently told them that he had gathered those documents at the direction of his former bosses in the White House liaison office — Admirals Rembrandt C. Robinson (now dead) and later Robert O. Welander.

Until last night, no one had ever said who, if anyone, had ordered Radford to collect information from Kissinger's office, and Radford's reported comments may be challenged.

Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had acknowledged receiving two packets of carbon copies of White House documents via Admiral Welander that Radford had "retained" in his former duties as clerk and typist for Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

However, Moorer has said he did not pay any attention to the documents because he was not aware of their unusual original and they contained nothing he did not already know. Moorer has also said he "never issued any instructions, or gave any orders, either directly or implied, to any to provide to me any unauthorized information."

Washington Post