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# Egypt's 'U.S. Spy Capture' Story

## Cairo

The semiofficial newspaper Al Ahran said yesterday an American woman diplomat was detained by Egyptian authorities after "being caught red-handed" in an investigation of a spy ring.

The U.S. diplomatic mission declined comment.

Egyptian government

sources also declined comment but other Egyptian informants said the woman was picked up last summer, held some time and was believed to have been later released.

The woman, according to Al Ahran editor Mohamed Hassane in Haikal, was a pawn in the Middle East crisis for several months. As the United States tried to exert pressure on Egypt for her release, President Anwar Sadat asked in reply what the United States was doing to settle the Middle East crisis.

### SECRETARY

Diplomatic sources in Beirut identified her as Sue Anne Harris, secretary to Eugene Trone, a U.S. diplomat in Cairo at the time. He is now in Rome. They said Miss Harris was held in an interrogation center on the northern outskirts of Cairo for three months.

Haikal's article said the woman was a go-between for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

He charged the CIA was trying to obtain information about new Soviet military aircraft that had arrived in Egypt. Last July it was learned the Russians had sent Egypt advanced MIG-23 jets.

### SECRETS

Miss Harris' contact, Haikal wrote, was a leading Egyptian businessman of Greek descent who later became the main defendant in "an enormous spy case."

Informants said Miss Harris was picked up after an Egyptian told police he had passed military secrets to her. The woman left Cairo in September after a last-second mixup at Cairo airport and presumably returned to Washington for reassignment.

The U.S. diplomatic mission in Cairo is in the Spanish Embassy and this was where Miss Harris worked.

Spain officially handles U.S. affairs in Egypt, which broke diplomatic relations with the United States during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

*Associated Press*