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(560) PASSPORTS,

BY RAYMOND J. CROWLEY

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON, MARCH 26 (AP)-IT'S A CRYING SHAME, SAYS MISS FRANCES G. KNIGHT, A FIGHTING RED-HEAD WHO IS DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. PASSPORT OFFICE.

IT'S NOT FAIR TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON, SHE SAYS. THE PRESIDENT, BESET BY A THOUSAND WORRIES, HAS VIRTUALLY BEGGED GOVERNMENT BUREAUS TO COOPERATE IN THE INTERESTS OF EFFICIENCY IN A DANGEROUS WORLD.

AND WHAT HAPPENS? "ONE MESSY MIXUP AFTER ANOTHER" INVOLVING HER BELOVED PASSPORT OFFICE, THROUGH NO FAULT OF ITS OWN.

IN THE LATEST, SHE SAID, "MACHINATIONS" WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT RESULTED IN A LEAK, OR RATHER "HANDOUT", OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION TO THE NEW YORK TIMES.

THIS LED TO STORIES THAT MISS KNIGHT HAD BEEN "REBUKED" BECAUSE HER OFFICE HAD ALERTED EMBASSIES IN PARIS AND MOSCOW TO SEND IN ANY "PERTINENT" INFORMATION THEY RECEIVED ON THE FORTHCOMING TRIP ABROAD OF PROF. H. STUART HUGHES OF HARVARD.

HE IS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY AND A CRITIC OF JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION POLICY IN VIET NAM. THE FBI REQUESTED THE SENDING OF THE ALERT TO THE EMBASSIES. THE NOTICE SAID HUGHES "REPORTEDLY IN THE PAST HAS HAD STRONG CONVICTIONS TOWARD COMMUNISM."

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SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY AN INVESTIGATION WOULD BE MADE OF THE INCLUSION IN SUCH ALERTS OF UNPROVED FBI MATERIAL.

"FRANKLY," HE SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE, "I DON'T BELIEVE WE OURSELVES (THE STATE DEPARTMENT), OR ANYONE ELSE, SHOULD BE TRANSMITTING ABROAD UNEVALUATED INFORMATION WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO A REAL JUDGMENT AS A MATTER OF POLICY HERE IN WASHINGTON.

"I'M SURE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AGREES WITH ME THAT WE MUST GIVE PROTECTION TO THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THEIR TRAVELS ABROAD."

MISS KNIGHT CHARACTERIZES HER IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR, PHILIP B. HEYMANN, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF SECURITY AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS, AS "A 32-YEAR-OLD WHIZ KID."

MISS KNIGHT, WHO IS 60, SENT HEYMANN A NOTE THURSDAY SAYING:

"I AM ASTOUNDED THAT THERE IS LITTLE OR NO EVIDENCE OF CONCERN REGARDING THE SO-CALLED 'LEAK' TO THE NEW YORK TIMES. WHY ISN'T THAT BEING PURSUED AS VIGOROUSLY AS THE CHARACTER ASSASSINATION OF FRANCES KNIGHT AND THE PASSPORT OFFICE?"

IN ANOTHER NOTE TO HEYMANN ON WEDNESDAY, SHE TOLD HIM SHE WAS REFUSING TO TALK TO EITHER THE TIMES OR THE NEW YORK POST WHICH SHE SAID "HAS NOW JUMPED INTO THE FRAY, NO DOUBT TO SAVE PROF. HUGHES FROM THE DANGEROUS, REACTIONARY PERSECUTION OF THE PASSPORT OFFICE."

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MISS KNIGHT IS REPORTED TO HAVE HAD REPEATED RUN-INS WITH ABBA P. SCHWARTZ, AN ADVOCATE OF A FREE-WHEELING "OPEN SOCIETY" POLICY ON TRAVEL. HE WAS HEYMANN'S PREDECESSOR AND RECENTLY RESIGNED.

SHE REFERRED TO SCHWARTZ'S TERM IN OFFICE AS "THE ERA OF SCHWARTZISM." WHEN A REPORTER ASKED WHETHER THIS WAS A REVERSE-ENGLISH REFERENCE TO MCCARTHYISM, A TERM COINED IN THE EARLY 1950S DURING THE COMMUNIST-IN-GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE LATE SEN. JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY, R-WIS., SHE SHRUGGED AND SAID:

"MCCARTHY IS DEAD; SCHWARTZ IS ALIVE."

MISS KNIGHT IS NOT FIGHTING BECAUSE SHE NEEDS HER \$24,000 SALARY. IN FACT, SHE SAID, IT PUSHES HER HUSBAND WAYNE PARRISH INTO A HIGHER TAX BRACKET AND THEREBY COSTS THEM MONEY. HE IS PUBLISHER OF A STRING OF AVIATION, ROCKET AND SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS.

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