

# 4 'U. S. Spies' Tell All On Moscow TV Show

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MOSCOW, Feb. 6.—The Soviet Union put four "real live spies" on television tonight in an effort to support its charges that the United States is carrying on a "secret war" of espionage against it.

One of the "spies" boasted he had fooled American military intelligence up to the moment of his appearance tonight by sending it messages for the past three years written for him by Soviet secret police.

All four "spies" are Soviet citizens who said that while displaced persons in Germany they had been debauched by Americans with liquor, gambling and easy women until they consented to return to Russia as secret agents.

While the performance had many earmarks of a melodramatic TV spy program, it was presented and produced by a unique sponsor, the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Some 200 Soviet and foreign journalists were summoned to the House of Journalists and found batteries of television cameras trained on four "spies" sitting on the stage with Leonid F. Ilyichev, press chief of the Foreign Ministry, acting as master of ceremonies.

For the next three hours, as the cameras whirred, the "spies" confessed all, and Ilyichev charged the United States with mounting espionage against Russia to the point where it became "almost an aggressive act."

The performance was carried live on Moscow television and filmed for showings throughout the Communist bloc. It had all the trappings of a massive propaganda effort backed by the Soviet government to paint United States officials as ruthless spy-masters working

against "peace-loving people."

On a long table below the performers were spread portable radio transmitters, forged documents, banknotes and gold coins, revolvers, cameras and poison capsules. The "spies" said they were instructed to use to commit suicide in event of capture. The "spies" said they were given the equipment by American intelligence agents. No explanation was given about how they were expected to walk with that quantity of spy material on their persons.

Ilyichev opened by charging that the United States for the first time in history had elevated espionage "to the level of state policy." He charged that undermining Russia from within through spies and saboteurs was "an integral part of the foreign policy of the United States."

He also assailed American military attaches in Moscow as spies and railed against American military aircraft, balloons and radio broadcasts violating Soviet air space.

The "spies" all told similar stories. Men in their early thirties, they said they were captured by the Germans during World War II and as displaced persons in Western Germany had been recruited as spies by "White Russian emigres" and American agents.

The four identified themselves as Nikolai I. Yakuta, Mikhail P. Kudryavtsev, Alexander Novikov and Konstantin Khmel'nitsky. Yakuta and Kudryavtsev said they surrendered to Soviet authorities in April, 1954. Novikov and Khmel'nitsky said they were captured in 1954.

Yakuta, who praised Soviet authorities for their "humane

treatment," told a harrowing tale of life under American agents in the "spy schools" he was put through in West Germany.

"In order to turn us into obedient servants and make us forget our love for our motherland," he said, "the Americans encouraged drinking, gambling and bad language among us and even took us to Munich to visit immoral houses to enjoy ourselves."

Khmel'nitsky told how he duped the Americans by acting as a double agent. He said after his arrest he confessed his treason and asked to make retribution by working for Soviet intelligence and deceiving his former employers.

He claimed he established contact with American agents by radio and as recently as Dec. 30 sent out false information supplied him by Soviet security men. He said the Americans believed he was a good agent and entrusted him with finding landing fields for spy planes.

Khmel'nitsky said he told Americans he worked at Bryansk in Byelorussia. He added his foreign contact told him during the Hungarian uprising to recruit and arm agents from among Soviet citizens and take them into the forest of Bryansk to await orders.

He also asserted his job was to collect intelligence data and spread radio about high Soviet figures in order to disgrace them.

He implied he was considered an American "spy" in good standing up to the time he appeared on the television show and was to have made his next secret broadcast Feb. 14.