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suggested by SFL as

generalized statement of

Based on Yale report

"WE TELL RUSSIA TOO MUCH"

See memo of 19 Mar 54.

When I say that we tell Russia too much I am merely stating a fact.

I am not criticizing our democratic form of government, our free press and radio, or any medium of governmental or public information.

I make the statement so as to try to show how easy it is for the Soviet to secure from overt sources in our country important information dangerous to our national security. In contrast it is difficult--very, very difficult --to get information from behind the Iron Curtain.

No solution to this problem is offered by me; others are perhaps better qualified to solve the serious problem. I am not advocating censorship, either at the source or self-censorship, during a time of peace. I only pose the problem.

Information is available to the Soviet from United States official governmental and semi-official governmental sources, the press, radio, periodicals and other non-governmental sources--and a great deal of the information so freely made public as part of our democratic way of life injures the national defense plans of our country.

Maybe responsible public information media and governmental sources will be able to offer a democratic solution. Our people must be informed-- but how do we help in this proper information function and yet keep our potential enemy from being as well informed as our own citizens of our capabilities industrially, militarily, financially--and morally?

I have seen proof of my belief that an American without any training in intelligence may determine from our free press and radio and from Congressional hearings, a very complete picture of our military situation, including for each of the major military services, its organization, strength in being and authorized, training, weapons, equipment, and special projects not yet out of the laboratory or development stage.

Congressional hearings, particularly by appropriations committees, and reports in the press and radio, make it possible to learn the numbers of and locations of our overseas bases, naval, air, army; the exact location here and abroad of each major element of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines; the missions, estimates of capabilities, names and biographies of our senior commanders; recent developments in weapons, electronics, technological research results, current and potential capacity of our transportation systems, production facilities--and the thinking of our people, whether united or divided by anyone or anything that might endanger our security as a nation.

I will not go into detail and name publication after publication, and governmental sources and semi-official governmental sources that make it easy for a behind-the-Iron Curtain power to get information about America from overt sources, but let me give these small examples--which are known to our potential enemies.

From our Government Printing Office one may purchase "The Army Almanac", a publication that contains basic information on the United States Army. By reading military orders that are published in ^{presumably} ~~publicly~~ owned and published

army, navy, air force magazines, information may be secured as to locations and movements of units and officers, developments in weapons, equipment, etc., and changes in organization so that the "Almanac" may be kept edited right up to date. If one is interested in APO's--Army post offices overseas to serve specific military units assigned to such APO's--one can purchase from a civilian publisher "The Air Officers Guide" which lists APO's.

Should one really want to keep up to date, a subscription to "Stars and Stripes", European edition and Pacific edition, will keep one informed of major units and commanders and training, etc., of their areas. These are semi-official service newspapers. There are also the privately owned "Army Times," "Air Force Times," "Navy Times," etc., which contain detailed military information, some of which may be useful to a potential enemy.

There are domestic news magazines that publish much information, gossip and rumor, on all phases of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Some metropolitan newspapers carry articles and columns by specialists on military, financial, labor, industrial matters that contain much information, usually specialized, and very useful to behind-the-Iron-Curtain countries. This information is usually accurate, often is based on interviews with high governmental sources--and this poses the problem: should information be published, even though it comes from a responsible governmental source, when it is apparent to the press that it is of value to a potential enemy? What is the responsibility of the press--the moral and patriotic responsibility --in such an instance?

To start securing a lot of accurate data on our Navy, one should secure an official Naval publication, "Ships and Aircraft of the United States Fleet." This publication lists all the vessels in the Navy, with the present status of each vessel, and it also contains considerable information about aircraft. It is possible to approximate the locations of squadrons as well as details of construction and other matters regarding naval ships.

Congressional hearings, however, provide the fullest, most accurate, and most detailed information. Exact figures on personnel, ships, aircraft, payrolls, are available, and where hearings are suspended to go "off the record," leads secured at that time permit inferences that may often be more correct than incorrect.

Statements issued by high governmental officials and by members of the Congress who witness certain non-public demonstrations or tests offer an interested reader or listener most valuable data and information for use by a potential enemy of the United States.

I could give specific and detailed results of what "leaks" and public information officially issued have added to the Soviet's knowledge of our strength--but to do so would also be playing the Soviet game, which I won't do--I'm on the United States team and I'm terribly security conscious and I am also wholly and fully for our democratic way of life, even with these dangers that I have outlined here.

We do tell Russia too much; and by Russia I mean the USSR.

- End -

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