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CPYRGHT THE HOT, HOT LINES.

That teletype connection between the Kremlin and the White House is not gathering dust. The operators at both ends exchange holiday greetings occasionally. The U.S. military teletypists have sent over chunks from the encyclopedias. The Soviet foreign minister, Andrei Gromyko, has told the United Nations that Russia has transmitted parts of a novel, "Notes of a Hunter" by Ivan Turgenev.

In the rarified atmosphere of super-secret installations, the men may be showing greater restraint than do some of their counterparts in the field who occasionally use the army radio transmitters to pass a few dirty stories around to eager-eared listeners. A 20-year-old Danish soldier is in the guardhouse for 20 days. In a recent NATO field maneuver he selected some excerpts from Henry Miller's "Tropic of Cancer" and coded them presumably against eavesdroppers whose morals might be corrupted. NATO radio stations, of which there are many in Western Europe, received an unexpurgated chapter from the controversial novel which, 40 or so years after it was written, is still banned in some countries. All the elaborate beaming equipment was directed at the illicit transmitter, but before it was possible to make an identification, the signal specialist had raised the temperatures and blood pressure of his audience and then shut down his transmission.

One of the remarkable things is that the modern encoding devices, as well as the secret codes themselves, can accommodate Miller's obscenities.

Secret messages have always been intriguing. Those entrusted are differentially treated because it is

assumed that they carry in their minds or in their briefcases the secrets of war and peace. When Allen W. Dulles was head of the CIA, he often took great delight in opening up his briefcase at high level conferences. Eyes drifted to the contents, the morning newspaper only.

Those intelligence couriers have carried a lot of secret papers to various military attaches around the world. They have also carried a lot of American magazines and perhaps a few comic books.

In view of the foregoing, we turn back to Mr. Gromyko at the U.N. who described how the Americans "from time to time transmit results of baseball matches" on the hot line. His hot wire boys said that the novel, "Notes of a Hunter" has aroused "great interest toward Russian classical literature on the part of American operators." Washington says these excerpts contained a "great deal of description of nature."

Was "Lady Chatterley's Lover" a hunter or a gamekeeper?