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(SPY)

MADISON, WIS. -- UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PROF. J. THOMAS SHAW, RECENTLY ACCUSED BY THE RUSSIANS AS A SPY RECRUITER, HAS CALLED THE ACCUSTATION "A LOT OF NONSENSE."

SHAW, WHO HEADS THE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF SLAVIC LANGUAGES, WAS ACCUSED THURSDAY BY IZVESTIA, THE OFFICIAL SOVIET NEWSPAPER, OF TRYING TO GET YOUNG RUSSIANS TO SPY FOR THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

IN 1958, SHAW WAS ORDERED OUT OF RUSSIA ON CHARGES OF TAKING PICTURES OF DEFENSE OBJECTS. HE WAS REFUSED A SOVIET VISA WHEN HE APPLIED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, HE SAID.

SHAW SAID YESTERDAY HE HAD BEEN DOING RESEARCH IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE OF THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY, CONCENTRATING ON THE RUSSIAN POET ALEXANDER PUSHKIN.

"I WAS IN THE SOVIET UNION IN 1958 AS ONE OF 20 AMERICAN DELEGATES TO THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SLAVISTS (SPECIALISTS IN SLAVIC LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE)," HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT WHILE IN MOSCOW HE ATTEMPTED TO RECONSTRUCT THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH PUSHKIN LIVED.

"I TOOK PICTURES OF HOUSES AND NEIGHBORHOODS IN WHICH PUSHKIN LIVED AS WELL AS THE USUAL TOURIST ATTRACTIONS," HE SAID.

"BECOMING THE OBJECT OF SUCH A RIDICULOUS CHARGE IS, I SUPPOSE, ONE OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS OF BEING IN MY PROFESSION OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE," HE SAID.

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