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Trial Throws Light On Bonn's Spymaster

FRANKFURT, Germany, July 10 (UPI)—The Karlsruhe trial of two West German intelligence agents for giving secrets to the Soviet Union is throwing rare light on one of Europe's most shadowy men.

He is Reinhard Gustav Gehlen, West Germany's secret service chief.

Some of Gehlen's reported 4000 agents of the Federal Intelligence Agency are said to be watching German scientists building rockets in Cairo. Others are reported operating in Communist China.

The West German spymaster's specialty is said to be the Soviet Union, where his agents are reported strung out from the western border to the Ural Mountains. Details are scarce.

Even the red-robed judges at the Karlsruhe trial leaned forward a bit when testimony revealed that defendant Heinz Felfe had served in Gehlen's 3-F counterespionage group. Few Germans had ever heard of the group before.

His countrymen are not even sure what the 61-year-old

spymaster looks like. A magazine recently paid thousands of dollars for a photograph that showed only the back of his baldish head.

The only known facial photo of Gehlen was taken 21 years ago. It shows a man with thin, tight lips, deep-set eyes and almost comic stuck-out ears. He is wearing the uniform of a World War II German lieutenant general.

Born in Erfurt, now in East Germany, Gehlen joined the army in 1920 and was a colonel when Adolf Hitler marched into Poland in 1939. After various staff jobs and some brief Eastern-front fighting, Gehlen took over military intelligence in the Soviet Union.

His network of spies—chiefly renegade Soviet prisoners and deserters—stretched far behind Red Army lines.

American GIs caught Gehlen in Bavaria with his previous Russian files at war's end. It was months before the U. S. Army realized its haul and flew Gehlen and the files off to Washington. He returned the next year, in 1946, and Germany's secret service had been reborn.

The trial of Felfe and Hans Clemens was held in closed session today as the prosecution related the extent of damage done to Allied intelligence by the alleged spies.

Both defendants were officials of the FIA, which until 1957 was an arm of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency. Felfe, a senior FIA official for 10 years, has admitted betraying Western agents to the Russians.

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