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WASHINGTON (UPI) _ The CIA and the National Security Agency have warned reporters not to speculate on what secrets were compromised by accused Soviet spy Ronald Pelton or go beyond details released by the prosecution at his current espionage trial.<

``Those reporting on the trial should be cautioned against speculation and reporting details beyond the information actually released at trial,'' the unusual statement said. ``Such speculations and additional facts are not authorized disclosures and may cause substantial harm to the national security.''<

A P The statement released Wednesday signed by CIA Director William Casey and NSA head Gen. William Odom did not say what, if any, action might be taken against journalists who violate the notice. But both intelligence chiefs have already warned that the government is considering prosecuting news organizations that violate a 1950 law on unauthorized disclosures concerning intelligence communications.<

White House spokesman Edward Djerejian said the Casey-Odom statement was approved Wednesday by national security adviser John Poindexter, and Djerejian added: ``We are in full agreement with the thrust of that statement.''<

5 The Washington Post Thursday quoted Benjamin Bradlee, its executive editor, in commenting on the CIA-NSA statement, as saying the newspaper will continue ``balancing the national security and the national interest'' in its reporting.<

``But,'' Bradlee added, ``how the press covers this trial is a matter for the press to decide, not the government.''<

The Casey-Odom statement said the decision to reveal state secrets at Pelton's trial in Baltimore was made after considering ``the demands of trial and the potential harm that release of this selected data may cause the national security.''<

Casey already has asked the Justice Department to consider prosecuting NBC News under the 1950 law and has warned several other major news organizations against publishing classified information.<

News reports have revealed that Pelton, a former NSA employee, discussed with the Soviets an intelligence plan called ``Ivy Bells,'' which NBC and others have said is part of a $1 billion submarine reconnaissance operation involving Soviet harbors and other installations.<

So far, the government has discussed in open court a previously undisclosed U.S. capability to intercept ``command and control'' communications from ``the highest level in the Soviet Union.''<

The government has said it debated whether to prosecute Pelton for fear of revealing intelligence secrets but decided to go ahead because of the recent flurry of spy cases.

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