

BROOKE ADMITS GUILT IN SOVIET SPY CASE

FOIAb3b

Moscow TASS International Service in English 0851 GMT 22 July 1965--L

(Text) Moscow, 22 July--The investigation into the case of the 27-year-old British subject Gerald Brooke, who came to the USSR as a tourist, confirmed his guilt of engaging in anti-Soviet activities.

The indictment cited at the trial today quoted documentary and material evidence of Brooke's guilt. He was caught attempting to spread leaflets and letters in the USSR calling for the overthrow of Soviet power upon assignment of the foreign anti-Soviet organization, "People's Labor Union"--NTS. He also brought with him to the Soviet Union, with the aim of handing over to citizen Konstantinov, printing facilities for turning out propaganda documents and other subversive materials.

During the investigation, Brooke fully admitted his guilt and stated that he repents what he had done.

Gerald Brooke, a teacher of Russian at Holborn College in London, headed a group of British students who came to the Soviet Union as tourists on 18 April 1965 to improve their knowledge of Russian. In reality, however, the indictment stresses, Brooke was set to the USSR as an emissar of the NTS with the aim of conducting anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.

As far back as January 1964, Brooke made contact with one of the leaders of this organization, known under the name of "Georgiy." In the course of secret meetings Brooke was informed of the aims and tasks of the NTS and its activities against the USSR.

In March 1965, Brooke informed "Georgiy" of his consent to fulfill a subversive assignment on the territory of the Soviet Union. He undertook to take to the USSR anti-Soviet materials concealed in an album of postcards and a handbag, as well as to collect some economic and political information of interest to the NTS.

Brooke testified during the investigation that should he have failed to present the NTS materials to the addresses, he was to hand them over to the secretary of the British embassy in Moscow, Antony Bishop, for forwarding to London by diplomatic pouch.

The indictment expresses regret that the British authorities are encouraging the activities of an organization hostile to the Soviet Union, and is permitting the employment of British subjects in subversive activities against the USSR.

On 25 April, Brooke was caught redhanded in the flat of Yuri Konstantinov, a Muscovite.

The preliminary investigation into the case of Gerald Brooke lasted about two months and was concluded on 28 June. The crime committed by Brooke falls under part one of Article 70 of the criminal code of the Russian federation, which envisages a penalty of imprisonment for a term of from six months to seven years.

(Editor's note: Moscow in English to the United Kingdom at 1200 GMT on 22 July reports that Brooke pleaded guilty to taking part in subversive activities against the USSR.)