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MEMO

SPECULATED TODAY THAT THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAD AT LEAST A HAND IN PREPARING THE MEMOIRS OF THE SPY WHO TIPPED OFF THE WEST ON RUSSIAN SPACE RESEARCH AND CUBAN MISSILES.

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY IN BOTH LONDON AND WASHINGTON BRANDED THE BOOK, "THE PENKOVSKY PAPERS," AS A CRUDE FALSIFICATION. IT HAS BEEN SERIALIZED IN PAPERS IN BOTH THE U.S. AND BRITAIN, WAS PUBLISHED BETWEEN HARD COVERS IN BRITAIN TODAY, AND WILL COME OUT FRIDAY IN THE U.S.

THE MEMOIRS OF COL. OLEG PENKOVSKY OF RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE, WHO WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH IN 1963 AFTER A PARTY-SECRET SPY TRIAL, TELL HOW PENKOVSKY DECIDED TO GIVE AWAY RUSSIAN SECRETS BECAUSE HE WAS DISILLUSIONED WITH COMMUNISM.

HE REGARDED NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV AND OTHER RUSSIAN LEADERS AS IMMORAL, ADVENTUROUS OPPORTUNISTS.

THE PAPERS, SUB TITLED "THE RUSSIAN WHO SPIED FOR THE WEST," ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN HURRIEDLY IN SCRAPS BY PENKOVSKY IN THE LAST MONTHS BEFORE HE WAS ARRESTED. THE BOOK SAID THEY WERE SMUGGLED SECRETLY TO THE WEST WHERE THEY WERE TRANSLATED AND EDITED.

LEN DEIGHTON, AUTHOR OF SPY STORIES SUCH AS "THE IPCRESS FILE," SAID IN THE EVENING STANDARD THAT PETER DERIABIN WHO TRANSLATED THE PAPERS WAS "A WILLING COLLABORATOR WITH THE CIA."

HE IDENTIFIED DERIABIN AS A DEJECTED FORMER RUSSIAN SPY. HIS REVIEW WAS HEADLINED "WHO WROTE THIS BOOK--THE RUSSIAN SPY, OR U.S. INTELLIGENCE?"

CHRISTOPHER DOBSON OF THE DAILY MAIL SAID THE ONLY PURPOSE IN PUBLISHING THE PENKOVSKY MEMOIRS WAS TO BLACKEN THE REPUTATION OF RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES.

HE ASKED IF IT WAS LIKELY THAT ANY DOCUMENTS AS IMPORTANT AS THESE COULD FIND THEIR WAY TO THE U.S. AND BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT THE C.I.A.'S PARTICIPATION.

"THE CONCLUSION MUST BE THAT THE PAPERS AS SUCH DO NOT EXIST," HE SAID. "IT IS MUCH MORE LIKELY THAT THE BOOK IS THE RESULT OF PAINSTAKING EDITING OF THE TAPE RECORDINGS AND OF PENKOVSKY'S INTERVIEWS WITH WESTERN AGENTS."

VICTOR ZORZA OF THE GUARDIAN AGREED THAT THE CONVERSATIONAL ORIGINS OF PARTS OF THE BOOK DISPROVED THE CLAIM THAT IT CAME FROM PENKOVSKY'S SMUGGLED "NOTES."

AND HE ADDED THAT THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT THE BOOK AS A WHOLE WAS EVEN A GENUINE EDITED TRANSCRIPT OF PENKOVSKY'S WORDS.

"THERE ARE MANY OTHER PASSAGES, AND SOMETIMES WHOLE SECTIONS, WHICH BETRAY THE ALIEN HARD--OR TONGUE," HE SAID.

BRITAIN REJECTED A RUSSIAN COMPLAINT ABOUT THE PUBLICATION OF THE PAPERS, SAYING IT WAS A COMMERCIAL MATTER AND THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF THE GOVERNMENT EXERCISING ANY CENSORSHIP.

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY SAID THE PAPERS WERE "FABRICATED TWO YEARS LATER BY THOSE WHOM THIS EXPOSED SPY SERVED." IT ADDED THAT THEIR PUBLICATION COULD NOT FAIL TO HARM FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE WEST.

IN MOSCOW, THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY CALLED IN THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE WASHINGTON POST TO PROTEST ITS PUBLICATION. PAPERS SERIALIZED IN PAPERS IN BOTH THE U.S. AND BRITAIN, WAS PUBLISHED BETWEEN HARD COVERS IN BRITAIN TODAY, AND WILL COME OUT FRIDAY IN THE U.S.

RP 12:17P