

File Security (extra)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: William F. Friedman
S/ASST

FROM: Sydney B. Smith
General Counsel

SUBJECT: Quotation from Newsweek, June 21, 1954

DATE: 14 July 1954

Your memorandum of 18 June asks whether the following quotation from Newsweek could be considered a violation of 18 USC 798:

"DEFENSE PIPELINE

National Security Agency -- Admiral Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has just completed elaborate precautions to keep posted on latest world developments at all hours. He lives right on the grounds of NSA, the top-secret military communications intelligence agency, and has ordered vital messages delivered to his home during the night and over all week ends and holidays."

The pertinent provision of 18 USC 798 reads: "Whoever knowingly and willfully **** publishes **** to the detriment of the U. S., any classified information **** concerning the communication intelligence activities of the U. S. **** shall be fined, etc." The underlined expressions are defined in the statute as follows: --

"The term 'classified information' means information **** specifically designated by a U. S. government agency for a limited or restricted dissemination or distribution."

"The term 'communication intelligence' means all procedures and methods used in the interception of communications and the obtaining of information from such communications by other than the intended recipients."

In the light of the above provisions, it would be necessary to prove inter alia that the information in Newsweek had been "specifically designated by a U. S. government agency for limited or restricted dissemination" and that the information related to "procedures and methods used in the interception of communications." I believe we would have difficulty in establishing either one of these points.

[Signature]
SYDNEY B. SMITH
General Counsel

NEWSWEEK, June 21, 1954

Extracted from the article "The Periscope" page 17.

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National Security Agency -- Admiral Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has just completed elaborate precautions to keep posted on latest world developments at all hours. He lives right on the grounds of NSA, the top-secret military communications intelligence agency, and has ordered vital messages delivered to his home during the night and over all week ends and holidays."

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS,
CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1 NAME OR TITLE <i>Mr. Friedman</i>	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>S/ASST</i>	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3		X	NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

*For your information -
JW M.
file with
your file on
security violations
J*

FROM NAME OR TITLE <i>A - Sinkov m.s</i>	DATE <i>14 Apr</i>
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION <i>TECH DIR / PROD</i>	TELEPHONE <i>333</i>

The pinetree stations were built jointly by Canada and the United States during the last four years. Personnel of the United States Air Force man those stations which, while they are in Canada, serve primarily to protect potential targets in the United States.

The stations whose locations were disclosed by the Roundel are believed to be named solely by the RCAF.

The Evening Star (Washington, D. C.), Night Final Edition, 13 April 54,
Page A-19, Column 2

APR 15 1954

RECEIVED

LEAK ON LOCATION OF 9 RADAR STATIONS IN CANADA ADMITTED

By Gerald Waring, Special Correspondent of The Star

OTTAWA, Ontario, April 13—The Canadian defense department took belated action today to protect the secrecy of locations of vital radar stations, but for nine stations the action was useless.

Defense Minister Brooke Claxton admitted in Parliament yesterday that the Royal Canadian Air Force magazine, the Roundel, had inadvertently published the locations of nine of the top secret radar installations.

These stations form part of the "pinetree chain" which is the primary radar protection for many Eastern Canadian and American cities and other potential targets against sneak attacks by Russian bombers.

Publication of routine RCAF personnel transfers disclosed information of a kind which Mr. Claxton had refused to tell Parliament last year on security grounds.

Transfer Listed.

The March issue carried this note under the "personnel transfers:" "Warrant Officer Second Class C. E. Morin—radar station Lac St. Denis to radar station Mont Apica."

Postings listed in another recent issue disclosed the locations of seven more stations.

The magazine has unrestricted circulation, and complimentary copies are sent to the air attaches of foreign missions here, presumably including those of Communist countries.

In refusing information on radar locations to members of Parliament last year, Mr. Claxton said that "one of the things first in importance for effective bombing is to be able to locate and know everything possible about the enemy's radar defenses."

Useful Knowledge.

With such knowledge, he explained, "attacking bombers can take the line of approach where radar coverage is least effective, or try to put them out of action by jamming or by bombing."

Yesterday, while not condoning the leak in the RCAF magazine, he pointed out that "the very nature of radar stations prevents their being secret"—for one thing, because "they are usually erected on the tops of hills."