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## General Takes Responsibility For Spy Report

Willoughby Would Waive Immunity; Agnes Smedley Wants to Sue MacArthur

TOKYO, Feb. 21 (UP).—Major General Charles A. Willoughby, chief American intelligence officer here, today accepted full responsibility for the spy report recently released in Washington and said he would welcome libel suits by persons it named as pre-war Soviet spies in Japan.

"While I decline absolutely to accept any responsibility for public release of the report," General Willoughby said, "I do accept fully any other responsibilities involved and very gladly waive any immunities I may possess to legal or any other action that may be taken or desired."

The Department of the Army said in Washington on Saturday that it had made a public relations "faux pas" in publishing the report, which, it said, was based on unsubstantiated information and was carelessly edited.

Two persons named in the report as Soviet spies have demanded retractions, and one of them, Mrs. Agnes Smedley, an American author on Far Eastern affairs, has been cleared by the Army Department. Mrs. Smedley, denying the espionage charge as a "despicable lie," is threatening legal action.

[Mrs. Smedley said in New York on Monday, and her attorney, O. John Rogge, said in Detroit, that General Willoughby was not the man they wanted to sue. They called General of the Army Douglas MacArthur the "responsible" officer in the Far East and asked that he waive his immunity.]

[Of General Willoughby's statement in Tokyo, Mrs. Smedley said: "Today one of General MacArthur's subordinates, while stating that the 'faux pas' spy report should not have been published in the first place, stands ready to protect his superior by offering to waive his own immunity. General MacArthur is a brave man, and he is the responsible officer in command of the Far East. Let him waive his immunity and I will sue him for libel."]

Gunther Stein, British journalist, also named as a member of the spy ring, has demanded retraction on the grounds that the charges against him were "ridiculous and untrue."