

McCarthy Reiterates Charges; Pearson Calls Him Cowardly

By the Associated Press

Senator McCarthy says Justice Department attorneys have a "complete, airtight case of violation of the Espionage Act" by Drew Pearson, the columnist.

However, the Wisconsin Republican said in a Senate speech yesterday, Army and Federal Bureau of Investigation inquiries have failed to turn up the "spy in the Pentagon" who, Senator McCarthy said, supplied Mr. Pearson with information which violated the Espionage Act.

Senator McCarthy referred to a Pearson column of last December which dealt with intelligence reports on the strength of Chinese Reds in Korea.

Cowardly, Pearson Retorts.

Informed of the McCarthy speech, Mr. Pearson retorted:

"Senator McCarthy, from the cowardly safety of his Senate immunity, is rehashing a phony, four-month-old incident which he knows to be absolutely false.

"Perhaps he is doing so to cover up the fact that he, himself, violated cryptographic security by publishing the exact date of a coded message, thereby helping the enemy to break our secret code.

"The information I published . . . was not in violation of the Espionage Act."

Says It Was Cleared.

Senator McCarthy charged in December that Mr. Pearson's column violated military secrecy. Mr. Pearson said the material had been cleared before he used it.

In yesterday's speech Senator McCarthy said the Army and FBI investigations "have produced evidence to make a clear-cut case of violation of the espionage laws by Mr. Pearson," and the information is in the hands of the Justice Department.

Mr. Pearson has brought a damage suit against Senator McCarthy, and others, charging that the Senator attacked him physically at a party last December 12 and, with the others, circulated "libelous, false and defamatory" assertions about him.

Criticizes British Government.

The Senator also charged in the speech yesterday that the British government is actively helping the Chinese Communists "while British boys are dying in Korea."

"Out of 10 ships going into Communist ports with war materials,

seven ships are sailing under the British flag," he said.

He said Prime Minister Attlee's Labor government does not represent the British people any more than "the Acheson crowd" represents the people of the United States.

He waved two large photographs which he said showed Mr. Attlee reviewed "a Communist parade" in 1937 or 1938, giving "the Communist salute."

He also declared that the United States 7th Fleet is not neutralizing Formosa—its officially announced mission in Far Eastern waters—but is protecting the Chinese mainland at the instigation of the "pals of Alger Hiss."

Another Round

McCarthy Vs. Pearson

By United Press

The feud between Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R., Wis.) and Columnist Drew Pearson sizzled today.

Sen. McCarthy claimed the FBI had an "airtight case" of espionage against Mr. Pearson which could send the newspaperman to prison. Mr. Pearson denied the charges as "absolutely false."

Sen. McCarthy, one of several defendants in a slander and anti-trust suit filed by Mr. Pearson, made the charges in a Senate speech late yesterday. He said it was based on restricted information to Mr. Pearson.

The Columnist said in reply to the latest charges Sen. McCarthy, "from the cowardly safety of his Senate immunity, is rehashing a phony four-month-old incident which he knows to be absolutely false."

"Perhaps he is doing so," Mr. Pearson said, "to cover up the fact that he himself violated cryptographic security by publishing the exact date of a coded message, thereby helping the enemy to break our secret code."

Army Secretary Frank Pace Jr. said Feb. 10 that the Army's investigation of Sen. McCarthy's earlier charges had produced "negative results." He said the case was turned over to the Justice Department for further investigation.

*Washington News
26 Apr. 1951*