

Leakage of U. S. Technology To the Soviet Bloc Is Charged

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP) — Senate investigators said today that sensitive information was being sent to the Soviet bloc because of weaknesses in the Commerce Department's bureau that enforces export controls on technology.

Fred Asselin, an investigator for the Senate Governmental Affairs investigations subcommittee, called the bureau, the Compliance Division of the Office of Export Administration, "an understaffed and poorly equipped and, in certain instances, undertrained and unqualified investigative and intelligence unit."

He said an investigation by the subcommittee's minority staff had concluded that the Commerce unit should be abolished and its functions transferred to the Customs Service.

"The national security implications of enforcement of the Export Administration Act are too important to be entrusted any longer to the Commerce Department as presently organized," Mr. Asselin told the panel.

"Because of the inadequacies of the Compliance Division," he said, "significant amounts of dual-use technology that contribute to Soviet military

strength are being shipped to the Soviet bloc."

The subcommittee is holding hearings on leakage of militarily valuable technology to the Soviet bloc.

Also appearing before the panel was Jack Vorona, a Defense Intelligence Agency official, who said the Russians had been mounting a "deliberate, massive and longstanding effort to acquire Western technologies for direct incorporation into their military and defense-related industry."

Mr. Vorona contended that the Russians "have derived significant military gains, particularly in the areas of computers, microelectronics, signal processing, manufacturing, communications, guidance and navigation, structural materials, radars and sensors of various types."

The United States Government frequently makes the Russians' work easier, he said, by publishing technical data on military programs.

For example, Mr. Vorona said, in 1979, two officials from the Soviet Embassy went to the public library in Milan, Tenn., to photocopy pages from an environmental impact statement concerning the construction of a plant to manufacture military explosives.