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AT THE PLAYERS

New Costume Director Is Former Secret Agent

By KAY PEDRICK

SARASOTA — Espionage and spy thrillers are the current rage for entertainment and The Players new costume director, Miss Marjorie Lynch, is right in style.

Recently retired, Miss Lynch once worked with the OSS and CIA.

"I guess I am sort of an Agent 005½ or something," laughed Miss Lynch. The 5½ figure corresponds closely with her height.

Miss Lynch spent 11 years with the government in CIA work. She was seven years in Italy, three in Cairo and two in Ecuador.

"My working in that branch was a pure accident," claims the sparkling, dark-haired Miss Lynch. "I took a civil service examination in Chicago and things sort of went from there," she explained.

There are still many parts of Miss Lynch's work that she is not free to discuss, even now that she is retired and has been since last May.

Miss Lynch is one of the "fun" people who has the sense of humor to laugh at the world and herself.

"We are getting ready for a musical and they won't let me be in it. Of course, I can't sing."

Miss Lynch recalled a time when she did get into a production as part of the crowd in a street scene. We had to wear black wigs and I took mine to the office. When everyone came in the next day, there I sat, typing away with my new hair-do."

Miss Lynch, now living in a Sarasota apartment, says she has wall-to-wall dogs.

"The lady down the way has wall-to-wall carpeting but she can't take the carpet out for a walk," she quipped.

Her dogs, one a French poodle and the other sort of United Nations poodle, won't stay at home when she isn't there.

"They bark something awful and the neighbors might complain so I just take them with me. They love to sit in the car. Of course when they see me coming, they get carried away and I usually pretend I don't even know who they belong to," she said.

News readers will recall seeing the picture that ran with stories about the embassy bombing in Viet Nam.

"If you remember seeing the one man who looked so awful and was being helped from the scene, that was one of my former bosses when I was in Cairo. He had to have 12 stitches after that bombing," said Miss Lynch.

"He is a real funny fellow." He said later after seeing the picture, that he would have to speak to his make-up man because he thought he was overdoing it a bit.

What prompts the switch from CIA to costuming for The Players in Sarasota?

"I have always loved the theater and I did study costuming when I was in school," explained Miss Lynch. "Besides, it's fun."

But then, Miss Lynch could probably run a button shop in Liberia and make a "fun thing" out of it just because that's the way she is.

Agent 005½ In Action

SARASOTA — Miss Marjorie Lynch, costume director for The Players, takes costume measurements for Mrs. Janice Wald. Miss Lynch was, until last May, a government employe and working with the OSS and CIA.

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