• APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: SEP 2005

UNCLASSIFIED

(b)(3)

August 15, 2000



No. 784

(U) Spy Fi Exhibit Opens



On August 10, DCI Tenet and hundreds of Agency employees formally opened the

Spy Fi exhibit in the first floor Atrium of NHB. (For further information on the exhibit, which is on display through December in the

corridors of OHB, and the Atrium of NHB, please see *What's Muse* edition No. 3, dated July 2000.).



(U) Illya and Danny Biederman present DCI
Tenet with an U.N.C.L.E. artifacts plaque as
OPA, and Fine
Arts Commission Chairman, look on.

Chairman of the Fine Arts Commission (FAC),
welcomed the audience to the collection of "names and images that evoke
such enduring memories for us all." observed that such images were
"influential and in large measure contributed" to his joining the Agency.
was particularly impressed with I Spy's Alexander Scott and Kelly
Robinson, embodiments of the bold adventurers with broad intellect and
savoir faire who were early models of partnership and teamwork.
underscored that these traits contributed to bringing the exhibit to the
Agency, and thanked the FAC's partners in Facilities Management, Office
of Technical Service, Center for the Study of Intelligence, Office of Public
Affairs, P&PG, SSI, and other offices.





(U) Agency officers DS&T, and ODDI, admire artifacts from

their namesakes. (Intelligence Community officers James Bond, James West, and Roger Moore had prior commitments and were unable to attend.)

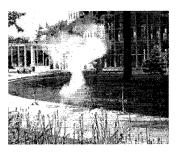
DCI George Tenet thanked collector Danny Biederman for bringing the collection to the Agency. He praised the OTS team, which "designs the best technical gear in the whole world." He predicted that "at Family Day, our children and family members will really enjoy this."

Danny Biederman, Hollywood screenwriter, author, producer, and consultant, noted that "I'm honored to be here. This has been a completely overwhelming

experience to work with my new friends at the Agency." Biederman traced his interest in espionage to being a 10-year-old watching The Man From U.N.C.L.E. He was "completely swept up by the world of intrigue and espionage," thinking "I want to be a spy." He later gravitated to the world of entertainment, where he has contributed to numerous fictional espionage stories on television and in print. At the same time, he began to build and collect spy gadgets and toys, and soon began collecting props from the movies and TV shows "that many of us grew up on." A year ago, the Agency contacted him about bringing some of his collection of 4,000 artifacts to Headquarters and "the two universes of fictional and real-world espionage" came together. The collection "is an important slice of the popular culture, not just of Americana, but for the world, and represents the incredible talent and imagination of the writers, producers, and others who put these together. This fascinating relationship between the two universes traces back to the 1960s, when President Kennedy revealed that he was a fan of the work of Ian Fleming." Biederman hopes that the collection will help "bring back memories, and continue to make us dream and inspire us."

Biederman presented DCI Tenet with a plaque which reads, "The international law enforcement agency, U.N.C.L.E., worked to protect world order by fighting such sinister forces as Thrush, an organization bent on world supremacy. The undercover warfare between these two secret groups—portrayed on the NBC-TV series "The Man from U.N.C.L.E." in the mid-1960s—left behind a number of artifacts that recall the intrigue and adventure which characterized U.N.C.L.E.'s many global affairs.

The Spy-Fi Archives has carefully preserved opening the exhibit. these items: a triangular security badge that permits entrance into U.N.C.L.E.'s secret headquarters; the personal



(U) DCI George Tenet and Danny Biederman push the plunger that sets off explosive flash paper similar to that used in the "Mission: Impossible" series, formally opening the exhibit.

business card of U.N.C.L.E.'s top enforcement agent, Napoleon Solo; and a uniform patch bearing the foreboding insignia of the evil Thrush organization.

These artifacts—representing the forces of both good and evil—are hereby presented to the Central Intelligence Agency in honor of its work toward world peace and the security of the United States of America. May the thrilling and imaginative adventures of spy fiction continue to reflect and inspire the good work of our American heroes for years to come.

--Danny Biederman August 10, 2000"

The audience was treated to a spy fi video montage, serenaded by the music of James Bond movies, and dined on Kuryakin cookies, Bond Bons, OO Oreos, and Kaos Cola. The reception gave *Whats News* us a chance to chat with employees about their impressions of the exhibit. Among their observations were:

- James Bond, Illya Kuryakin, Alexander Scott, Emma Peel and others
 were great role models when we were growing up, showing people
 doing exciting, creative work in secrecy and danger for a greater
 good. A lot of us are here because we became interested in this work
 during our childhood.
- I Spy was one of the first television shows to showcase a minority as a main character, while *The Avengers* showed a man and woman working as equal partners. They presaged the diversity you see at the Agency today.
- A lot of the devices created by prop masters for the movies bear a startling resemblance to the cameras, communication devices, and other gadgets created by both sides during the Cold War. It's neat to compare Spy Fi's items with the Cold War Exhibit.
- The exhibit shows again that we have a sense of humor. It provides a lighthearted take on the business of intelligence.

Biederman will meet with employees on Wednesday, August 16, at 1 p.m. in OHB to discuss the gadgets of spy fiction and the real world. He'll also address an upcoming OTS Town Meeting. He'll return to the Agency in September to host the Spy Fi Film Festival in the Headquarters Auditorium (Watch What's News for titles, dates, and times of showings.). (This is UNCLASSIFIED.)

[Return to TOC] [Full Text Version]

UNCLASSIFIED