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Headlines: (U) Patrick Stewart Visits CIA Headquarters

"I am honored to be here and commend what you do."
--Patrick Stewart

John LeCarre's superspy Karla finally made it to Langley on December 19, when actor Patrick Stewart, who played the Soviet bloc intelligence chief in the George Smiley television series, visited the Headquarters complex. Stewart, who is appearing in the Folger Theater's production of *Othello*, told *What's News*, "Coming here in the footsteps of George Smiley was a pilgrimage for me. Upon first seeing the Headquarters building, a certain thrill ran through me. I have had a life-long--since I was six--fascination with politics. Each morning when I get up, I read for pleasure for 30 minutes. As luck would have it, when [redacted] of your Public Affairs Staff called, I was reading a book by Harvey Weinstein, an MKULTRA victim, whose grandson works for me. I must tell you that this sordid story, and other media characterizations of your work--had somewhat colored my perceptions of your organization. However, I am very favorably impressed with what I have seen here."

Stewart's visit began with a meeting with DCI George Tenet, who explained the oversight process, praised the dedication of the Agency workforce, and detailed some of the new areas in which the Agency works. Stewart, a longtime activist with Amnesty International, was particularly appreciative of the Agency's work in disaster relief, tracking down war criminals, and monitoring human rights violations. He cited the similarity of what the Agency stands for and the values portrayed on *Star Trek* (which, he noted, begins filming its next movie in March).

During his meeting with DDO Jack Downing and ADDO James Pavitt, Stewart noted, "What is shocking for a European living in America, the most open society in the world, is the amount of public accountability government officials, even in a secret organization, face. This is a fascinating tension between secrecy and openness."

Stewart's visits to the Operations Center and CTC's Intelligence Fusion Center included discussions of the importance of all-source intelligence on a myriad of topics. He was particularly impressed with the number of terrorist threats reported around the world, and by the Agency's successes in combating terrorism. Stewart praised the "great work" of Crime and Narcotics Center officers, who demonstrated their crop production methodology, use of computer graphics, and overhead imagery in working against international organized crime and drug traffickers.

After a tour of the Cold War exhibit and the Memorial Wall, Stewart said, "Your work entails elements of danger, adventure, and excitement, which too easily is seized upon by Hollywood. One needs a sense of balance and proper perspective on your work. This visit has certainly shifted my perceptions and made me review my attitudes toward the Agency and my conditioning from previous reading about you. Wendy, my fiancée, and I are starting up a production company. We would welcome projects that give a more positive view of the good work of your organization." Stewart also expressed interest in returning to the Agency to address employees in the Auditorium on the craft of acting and portraying intelligence in the movies.

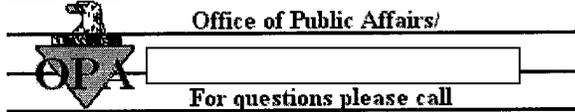
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Photo: [Redacted] *CNC, demonstrates crop estimation techniques.*

Photo: *DCI Tenet establishes liaison relations with Starfleet officer Jean Luc Picard.*

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For questions please call

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