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## The Agency's Lead Characters Visit Headquarters

by  OPA

Filming is currently under way in Toronto for *The Agency*, a Paramount Studios made-for-television movie scheduled to air on Showtime later this year (*for further details, see What's News edition No. 519, dated May 5*). Tom Berenger and Ron Silver play the lead characters in an authentic, action drama about CIA's mission and personnel. Berenger recently spent two days at Headquarters preparing for his role as the DO officer who heads a multi-directorate task force dealing with Russian missiles in North Korea. After meeting with DCI Tenet, the ADDO, and others, Berenger toured the Operations Center, CNC, and the Balkan Task Force. Silver, who portrays the DCI, also met with the DCI and DDCI in a separate visit. Both actors were impressed with everyone and everything they saw, commenting that the professionalism and dedication of the workforce were indeed outstanding.

"It was truly a moving experience," Berenger said, "to walk across the great seal in the lobby and see the stars on the Memorial Wall. I feel privileged to visit CIA and have a far greater appreciation about what this organization and its people do to protect our nation." He added that he thought The Agency was a great script and promised to give a performance "equal to the quality of the true officers who really work in the Agency." After Silver got a thumbnail sketch of what life's like in the day of the DCI, the actor said, "There's no way I could have ever prepared as thoroughly for this role without talking to Mr. Tenet. His responsibilities are enormous and I deeply appreciate the time and insights he gave me—both will better enable me to portray the DCI in this movie."

Screenwriter Roger Towne has been on the production set in Toronto modifying scenes and crafting last minute changes in dialog to depict the highest degree of realism possible. Adding to The Agency's intended authenticity, director Tim Matheson will film at least one scene in Headquarters, tentatively during the third weekend in June. Everyone on the production staff, especially Berenger and Silver, have repeatedly stated their intention to make a movie that will truly reflect the CIA in a positive, patriotic light.

Tom Berenger meets with DCI George Tenet and

Tenet tells actor Ron Silver what it's like to be DCI.

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For questions please call

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