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Soviet Lures Diplomats With Sex, Defector Says

By the Associated Press

A former Soviet secret police agent has told a Senate committee about a Russian Mata Hari-type scheme designed to compromise foreign diplomats by supplying them and their wives with a stream of attractive bed partners.

In testimony released yesterday, Yuri Krotkov, who appeared under the name of George Karlin, said "there is a colossal institute of co-opted Soviet girls" kept for diplomats, as well as handsome Russian men used to form romantic liaisons with women attached to embassies in Moscow, including the wives of ambassadors.

He named some highly placed diplomats and their wives as he told of love affairs, seductions and attempted seductions. Karlin said he knew of some incidents first hand, but others were hearsay.

All the same, he told the Senate investigators, such operations often failed in establishing blackmail opportunities because the diplomats knew what to expect.

He said a typical KGB—Soviet secret police—joke was a remark attributed to an American diplomat in Moscow that "the KGB supplies us each week with another blonde girl, like they change the sheets in the hotel each week."

The use of winsome women for espionage and blackmail is nothing new in affairs of state, with famous incidents popping up all through history. Perhaps the most notorious involved Mata Hari, a Dutch-born dancer used by the Germans in World War I in an attempt to pry secrets from Allied agents.

She was caught and executed by the French in 1917.

Karlin said in his testimony he was a Soviet playwright, screen writer and radio correspondent until he defected to London in 1963. He said he was "co-opted,"

or recruited, by the KGB in 1946 while a correspondent for Moscow Radio.

He testified a former French ambassador to Russia, Maurice Dejean, had liaisons with several Russian women he had provided. He said he had no official knowledge of the result of the espionage plan, but added one of his superiors said, "Our operation with the French ambassador was one of the greatest in the history of KGB's inside operations."

Karlin testified behind closed doors on nine days in March 1970 and November 1969 before the Senate internal security subcommittee. Some of the information contained in the three volumes of testimony previously has been published in a magazine article.

The former Russian agent said the KGB is neither brilliant nor idiotic, but is powerful. And he said that, "When you are coming to the USSR, you must control each of your moves, each of your actions."

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Soviet Defector Says Girls Lure Diplomats

Associated Press

The KGB, the Soviet secret police, is described in testimony made public yesterday by Senate investigators as keeping an unending supply of young girls to try to seduce foreign diplomats in hopes of blackmailing them.

But the witness, a Soviet defector who testified that he had spent 17 years as a KGB agent, said these operations were failures more often than not because the diplomats were well-briefed on what to expect.

He said a typical KGB joke was a remark attributed to an American diplomat in Moscow that "the KGB supplies us each week with another blonde girl, like they change the sheets in the hotel each week."

Yuri Krotkov, who testified under the English name of George Karlin that he now uses, was a Soviet playwright, screen writer and radio correspondent until he defected in London in September, 1963. He said he was recruited by the secret police in 1946.

In three volumes of testimony made public by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, Karlin told in detail of his role in recruiting beautiful young girls as agents in operations designed to obtain

compromising information on foreign diplomats.

He said the girls were referred to by the KGB as "swallows."

Karlin testified also that handsome Soviet men were used in attempts to form romantic liaisons with women attached to various embassies.

He named some highly placed diplomats and their wives. Some of his information, he said, was firsthand and some only hearsay.

Karlin's testimony was given at nine days of closed hearing. Some of the material previously has been published in a magazine article.

Part of Karlin's testimony dealt with a former French ambassador to Russia, Maurice Dejean, who, according to the subcommittee, served in Moscow from December of 1955 until January of 1964.

Karlin testified that Dejean had sexual relations with several Russian women he had provided. He said he thought the ambassador was compromised but could not say Dejean had become a traitor.

In any event, he testified that one of his superiors presented him with a gold watch at a dinner for his part and said "our operation with the French ambassador was one of the greatest in the history of KGB's inside operations."