

Spy Lecture Brought Out

CPYRGT

Penkovsky Smuggled Training Data to Warn America

Thirteenth in a Series
By Frank Gibney

A Soviet spy's guidebook to the United States: a top-secret lecture, given to Soviet intelligence officers in Moscow at the Military-Diplomatic Academy, by Lt. Col. I. E. Prikhodko, officially titled: "Characteristics of Agent Communications and of Agent Handling in the U.S.A."

In the vast amount of intelligence material which Col. Oleg Penkovsky smuggled out of Moscow -- Soviet prosecutors at his trial in 1963 themselves admitted he had passed on 5000 separate photographed items--Penkovsky apparently thought this one item, in particular, should receive the widest distribution.

This training lecture was given in 1961 to acquaint Soviet intelligence officers with some of the problems and opportunities of espionage in the United States.

Served in U.S.

Its author, Lt. Col. I. E. Prikhodko, had himself served as an intelligence officer in New York, from 1952 to 1955, under 'cover' of a post with the Soviet Mission to the United Nations.

Penkovsky first read it in the course of a briefing session in Moscow while preparing for a mission to the United States, which was later canceled. He sent it along, with the Papers, as "a warning to the American people" of the extent to which Soviet espionage has expanded, in fact, formalized, its widespread undercover activities in the United States.

Although the language of the Prikhodko lecture is professorial, its content is hair-raising. It is literally a professional working manual for Soviet intelligence officers in the United States, complete with instructions on how to 'recruit' American 'agents' to do their spying work--a most sinister variety of 'how-to-do-it' book.

As his first step, Col. Prikhodko tries to give his pupils--most of them Soviet intelligence officers of major or

lieutenant colonel's rank--an objective introduction to the strange ways and customs of Americans, regarded in his Soviet classroom as virtually citizens of another world.

Communist Contact

Although Col. Prikhodko was trying to be objective, his guidebook is a weird article, with observed reality constantly being confused with the necessity to interpret everything in a Communist context. While the colonel finds the Americans, on the one hand, "energetic, enterprising and open people... resourceful, courageous and industrious," they are at the same time "demoralized" by "bourgeois society" and constantly diverted by "monopolists" into spending their time in silly amusements instead of meditative and deliberative activity.

They have "a natural love of freedom and independence," but they are always "swayed by money" and "indifferent" to anything not connected with business.

If this clinical Soviet appraisal of Americans is unintentionally funny, it is also frightening. For the Soviet intelligence officers who study lectures like this are the very men the Kremlin relies on to make estimates of American responses to Soviet actions.

The Lecture

Agent communications and agent handling involve first and last working with people, as a rule from the bourgeois world. For this work to be successful, it is necessary that Soviet officers know these people well, their characteristics and their personality traits, and the political and economic circumstances which condition their behavior.

In the recruitment of agents, preference should be given to Americans because they are highly trusted both in the U.S.A. and in the countries of Europe. It is much easier for an American agent to deliver mail for the "Center" "i.e. intelligence head-

quarters to one of the West European countries (a neutral country or an ally of the U.S.A.) and mail to our residents in the U.S.A.

An intelligence officer, however, who does not know the characteristics of the American way of life or who neglects those aspects cannot be trusted to handle and control American agents working for us.

Traits Studied

The way of life, customs, temper, demeanor, and personality traits of Americans have specific significance. Most Americans are energetic, enterprising, and open people, with a great sense of humor.

They can be described as having business acumen and as being resourceful, courageous, and industrious.

The over-all situation and the absolute power of money in the U.S.A. arouses just one desire in many people -- to make more money.

In describing a person, Americans often use the expression, "He knows how to make money," which means that such a person has a lot of money.

The other side of the question, specifically, where the money comes from or how it is "made," is not, as a rule, of interest to anybody.

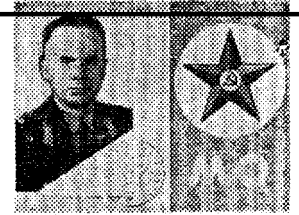
It can be said that Americans encourage any method of getting rich.

American bourgeois propaganda tries in every way to convince the population that anyone can make money if he is sufficiently resourceful.

Such a one-sided upbringing engenders in some of the people an indifference to everything unconnected with business, profits, and gain. The American love of money can be exploited by paying an agent for his work in order to increase his personal interest in working for us.

Payments must be prompt and equitable. This disciplines the agent and improves the Soviet officer's authority.

To encourage an agent monthly payments are in-



valuable gifts are given.

Thus, for example, Agent B, who was on a monthly salary, reduced his production appreciably. His attendance at meetings and visits to dead drops were irregular. Despite rebukes by the intelligence officer, the agent's work did not improve.

The intelligence officer decided that he would have to use material inducement. With the Center's permission he began to pay the agent only for those months during which the agent actually worked and performed his operational activities.

Agent B realized that further loitering would result only in the loss of all his extra income. He began to perform his tasks more efficiently.

An American's circle of interests is often rather small. Many Americans do not read books. Their main interest lies in advertisements, sports news, and cartoons; on the front pages they only glance at the large, sensational headlines.

Generally speaking, bourgeois society demoralizes people.

Every American family tries to save money for a "rainy day"; therefore a certain amount is set aside from each pay check.

Wall Street does everything possible to keep Americans from devoting their free time to meditation and deliberation. Movies, cheap concerts, boxing, parks, horse races, baseball, football, restaurants--all these are used to divert the masses from the realities around them.

In general, an American's wants consist of having his own automobile, a comfortable apartment, and a good time. Most Americans, both men and women smoke.



AUTHOR—Frank Gibney interviewing workers behind the Iron Curtain.

Concerned Over Clothes

Americans are very concerned about clothes and outward appearances. They try always to have a clean suit, well pressed with a good crease in the trousers, a clean shirt, and shoes well polished. They send their suits regularly to the cleaner and their shirts to the laundry, both of which are everywhere in the U.S.A. It is customary to change white shirts and socks daily.

It should be noted, therefore, that an intelligence officer who has an outwardly slovenly appearance will not command respect from an American agent.

In American clothing, light colors predominate. Americans like loose fitting shoes, as a rule one or two sizes larger than necessary.

In his free time, when not at work, and especially during the summer, the American wears sports clothes: light trousers, short-sleeved shirts, no necktie. Sunglasses are in common use.

Outside the office an American's behavior is free and relaxed. Many Americans like to keep their hands in their pockets and chew gum.

Americans listen to the weather forecast and, if bad weather is predicted, they take an umbrella and raincoat; Americans do not wear rubbers. Both men and women use umbrellas. Thus, before going to a meeting, an intelligence officer should listen to the weather forecast and, if necessary, take an umbrella or a raincoat.

Time Spent in Bars

Americans like to spend their time in bars. Many bars have no tables. Customers sit on high round stools next to the bar. As a rule, bars do not provide snacks or hot dishes. One can order only drinks: whisky, gin, beer, etc.

In order not to attract undue attention the intelligence officer must know how to order sufficiently well. It is not enough, for example, to ask, "Give me a glass of beer." It is also necessary to name the brand of beer: "Schlitz," "Reingold," etc. For the customers' amusement, most proprietors install a television set in a corner above the bar. Customers often sit over a single glass of beer for several hours watching television programs.

American drug stores, especially in large cities, have almost become department stores. Therefore they are never without customers. Drug stores can be used to hold short meetings with agents, as well as for other agent activities, e.g. signaling clandestine phone calls.

Even American movie theaters are distinctive. Most movie theaters in large cities are open from 12 noon to 1 a.m. Moviegoers enter as soon as they get their tickets and they may take any unoccupied seat. Films are shown continuously. Americans are not content with only a single feature film. Therefore, movie theater proprietors show two films, one after the other which last three to four hours.

Intelligence officers can make extensive use of movie

necessary, the intelligence officer must brief the agent on how to smuggle material out of an installation and how to reproduce the material at home or at work. It is very important that our American agents know how to develop proper and plausible cover stories for their extraneous income and for their periodic absences.

Golf Course Meetings

Golf is the most popular sport among the well-to-do in the United States. Agent meetings can be held at golf courses as easily as in other athletic clubs. During the week there are very few people at the golf courses. On week days the intelligence officer and his agent can arrive at the golf course (preferably at different times, twenty to thirty minutes apart), each can begin to play alone, and at a previously designated time can meet at, let us say, the sixteenth hole or at some other hole (there is a total of eighteen holes).

Saturdays and Sundays are less suitable days for holding agent meetings at golf courses because on these days many players gather, tournaments are held, and single play is not permitted. Golf courses are found on the edges of wooded areas or parks in broken terrain where there are many hidden areas. These hidden areas are the best places for holding meetings. In some cases, meetings can be held in clubhouse restaurants.

To hold successful meetings at a golf course, one should learn the conditions there ahead of time. A basic requirement is to know the game and how to play it. Therefore students should learn this game while still here in Moscow at the academy.

Golf club membership is rather expensive, however, and also, not all clubs are equally accessible to our intelligence officers. It is even difficult for local residents, to say nothing of foreigners, to get into some golf clubs, if they do not have a certain position in society.

With club memberships so difficult to obtain it is advisable to use public golf courses.

The technical knowledge of the average American is rather high. In his everyday life he makes wide use of machines, equipment, and instruments. Therefore the training of an American agent in operational technology is all the easier.

Yet it should be emphasized that the national characteristics of American agents are such that they are often careless. Americans make poor conspirators. They therefore need extremely careful briefing.

Realizing that the majority of Americans are open, straightforward, and happy people with a great sense of humor, the intelligence officer can prepare for and conduct a conversation with an agent that is not dull but lively and witty.

When preparing for a meeting he must try to anticipate the agent's questions, prepare good answers to them, and at the meeting to answer the agent in such a manner that the agent will feel that the intelligence officer is being frank with him.

Americans, like other people, are patriots. They are proud of their country's achievements; they honor their national heroes, and value their cultural monuments. Therefore the intelligence officer must be careful not to indiscriminately criticize things American, but must remember that an unfortunate statement, for example, about some popular U.S. President (George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson) might offend the agent. A negative result might also come from an officer's underrating American culture.

Condensed from the forthcoming book "The Penkovsky Papers," 1963, Doubleday & Co., Inc.

MONDAY: Part 2 of the Colonel Prikhodko lecture—ways and means of communicating with Soviet agents in the U.S.