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**JAMES BOND WOULD DIE OF EMBARRASSMENT**

# Spies getting bad name

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**W**ASHINGTON—On the chessboard of international espionage, this year has been a dangerous time for pawns.

Britain and the Soviet Union had a furious exchange of pieces, playing tit for tat on "spy" expulsions; some of West Germany's pawns changed color to defect to the East; and France wound up with two underwater knights jailed in New Zealand, accused of sinking a peace ship.

A rash of bungled espionage capers, top-level East-West defections and diplomatic expulsions around the world this year has been enough to make the fictional superspy James Bond blush with embarrassment.

Citing the spy scandals, President Reagan said the United States and other nations are now reevaluating the amount of information they share with their allies. And Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has opined that when it comes to Soviet officials in the U.S., there may be more than we need.

For the Soviets, the French and the West Germans, it has not been a memorable year.

A total of 54 Soviets so far have been kicked out of various countries for spying this year, far surpassing the 19 suspected agents ejected in 1984, the State Department said. Britain accounted for 36 of them; Liberia expelled 13.

Britain pulled off what appears to be the major intelligence coup of the year when it announced on Sept. 12 that Oleg Gordievski—the chief of the KGB operation in London—had defected.

**N**o higher-ranking Soviet official had publicly defected to the West since Arkady Shevchenko, undersecretary to the United Nations, came over to the U.S. in 1978.

It later was revealed that Gordievski had been working as a double agent for the West for the last 20 years.

"This is the biggest, most important defection to the West in 25 years," said British espionage expert Brian Freemantle.

The British, using information supplied by Gordievski, immediately ordered the expulsion of 25 Soviet diplomats, journalists and businessmen for spying.

What ensued became an almost comical "spy war."

The Soviet Union retaliated by expelling 25 Brits. Britain waited a couple of days and then kicked out six more Soviets. The Soviets matched them again, kicking out six more Britons.

Declaring victory, Britain called a halt to the exchanges.

Receiving far less publicity was the defection in May of Sergei Bokhan, the first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Athens and reportedly the deputy station chief in Greece of the GRU—the Soviet military intelligence agency.

**W**estern diplomats said Bokhan provided the U.S. with a wealth of information on spies and Soviet organizations in Greece. A Greek navy lieutenant exposed by Bokhan as a Soviet spy was arrested last week.

In West Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government was stunned Aug. 19 when the head of its counter-intelligence office, Hans-Joachim Tiedge, fled to East Berlin. But that was only the beginning.

Two secretaries and an army messenger quickly vanished—all

apparently to the East—and a secretary in the office of President Richard von Weizsacker was arrested on suspicion of having been a spy for 18 years.

The scandal widened when a secretary in Kohl's office and her husband defected to East Berlin.

The West German government was embarrassed and its ally, France, fared no better. It is suspected of bungling, with tragic consequences, an attempt to scare off the antinuclear Greenpeace protest group—and of getting caught.

Two French agents are in jail in New Zealand and waiting trial for the June 10 sinking of the Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace flagship.

The vessel, which was to lead a flotilla to protest French nuclear testing at the Mururoa Atoll, was sunk by two explosive charges attached to its hull in Auckland harbor. A photographer aboard the ship went below deck after the first blast and was killed by the second explosion.

**D**espite denials by French President Francois Mitterrand, the sinking was reported to be the work of a team of French military divers.