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DATE: SEP 2005

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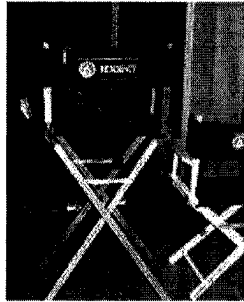
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May 17, 2001

No. 882



### (U) "The Agency" Gets the Green Light



CBS has announced that its fall schedule will include a new hour long series called "The Agency." The program is slated to run on Thursday nights at 10 p.m. The pilot for the show, which was partially filmed at Headquarters last month, is scheduled to be broadcast as the first show of the series in the third week of September. (For further information, see *What's News* edition Nos. 868 and 871, dated April 18 and 25, respectively.)

Herb Adelman, Unit Production Manager for the show, sent the following letter to the Agency:

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and that of the entire cast and crew of the television pilot, *The Agency*, for the warm welcome, and wonderful support and cooperation your office and the staff of the Agency provided us. Unfortunately, I didn't get any names.

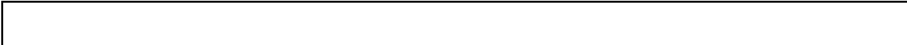
First, I would like to thank and commend the tireless support and coordination provided by [redacted] [redacted] Bombarded with countless telephone calls, faxes, letters, and inquiries from many of our departments, [redacted] always was pleasant, informative, and helpful—and never lost his patience. Through a long, hard, and grueling day of production [redacted] was the perfect representative and coordinator for the CIA. We couldn't have done it without him.



(U) Production Manager Herb Adelman (right) sets-up the opening scene for CBS's new series "The Agency."

Second, I would like to thank and commend your security staff. I'm sure that having 100 or so strangers tromping all over 'the campus' must have been a test of their professional training and patience. However, they were always courteous and helpful. I was anticipating and planning for a half-hour delay just to get 'on campus' and much to my surprise everyone breezed through the gate, went to work, and we lost no time. Also, the security guards who were extras on camera in the main lobby and at the Berlin wall monument were terrific—including the beautiful German Shepherd guard dog.

Third, a big thank you to your facilities and maintenance personnel.



Through that very long day they were always available, helpful, and knowledgeable about the location of every switch, outlet, and widget. Their continuous assistance and support were invaluable to making our day.



*(U) Agency employees welcome actor Gil Bellows to Headquarters.*

Fourth, another big thank you to your staff and all the people in the Public Affairs Office who supported [redacted] and were extremely helpful to us. I also want to thank the staff of the gift shop for coming in on a Saturday so that we could buy souvenirs from one of the more unusual locations I've ever shot.

Fifth, and by no means least, I want to commend all the CIA people who came in on their day off to work as extras for us. The work of a background player in the movies is one of long hours of waiting around and short bursts of doing the same thing over and over. These people were cooperative, enthusiastic, and professional throughout the day. A very big thank you to all of them.

Being able to shoot at the Agency and having the technical advice from real Agency staff improved the pilot enormously. The first scene in the main lobby, when the security guard says to a new employee, 'Welcome to the Agency,' and the camera moves to a full frame shot of the great seal could be a recruiting movie for the CIA.

Lastly, I want to convey my personal impression of the CIA people I met. There was a loyalty, spirit, morale, and sense of mission that I've rarely experienced. It seems to be a terrific place to work. Once again, thank you and all the personnel of the CIA." *(This is UNCLASSIFIED.)*

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