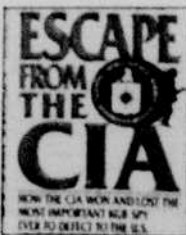


Even for Soviet defectors, there's no place like home



Escape From the CIA
by
Ronald Kessler

Simon & Schuster, © 1991
295 pages
Paperback price: \$5.99

★ ★ ★

● — throw it away ● ● — a real disappointment
● ● ● — worth the time ● ● ● ● — a real page-turner

One of the biggest spy vs. spy scandals of the Cold War didn't involve any of the super-exploding, laser-firing, radio wave-emitting gadgets popularized in the James Bond movies that have entertained millions.

This spy story involved one average-looking man with blonde hair and a bad handlebar mustache, a French restaurant, a quaint two-story house in rural Virginia and a trip to Canada in search of true love.

On Aug. 1, 1985, Vitaly Yurchenko, the fifth-ranking agent of the KGB hierarchy, walked

into the American embassy in Rome saying he wanted to defect. He was immediately flown to the United States. The CIA and FBI set him up in a safe house and lost no time debriefing him about his vast knowledge of KGB operations.

Yurchenko was the highest-ranking KGB official ever to defect to the United States. One of his many jobs within the Soviet spy agency was directing intelligence operations in the United States. With information supplied by Yurchenko, the FBI and CIA would be able to expose anyone spying for the Soviets.

Yurchenko's defection was an unbelievable coup for U.S. intelligence operations.

But just three months later, on Nov. 2, 1985, Yurchenko walked away from a French restaurant where he was dining with his CIA guard saying, "I'm going for a walk. If I don't come back, it's not your fault."

On Nov. 4, Yurchenko held a press conference at the Soviet embassy. He told reporters there he had been kidnapped in Rome by the CIA and brought to the United States where he was held prisoner and drugged.

Speculation about what real-

ly happened during Yurchenko's three-month vanishing act soared. If he was a true defector, why did he go back? Did the CIA really kidnap him, and if so, why did they let him escape? Was Yurchenko sent by the Soviets as a plant to discredit the CIA? And most importantly, how could the CIA have blown one of the biggest cases of the Cold War?

In *Escape From the CIA*, award winning journalist Ronald Kessler attempts to sort out the entire sordid affair.

Kessler is the first and, to date, the only Western journalist to interview Yurchenko since he returned to the Soviet Union (Yurchenko, incidentally, was still employed by the KGB in 1988). The author also draws on many sources within the American intelligence community to reconstruct the case of the defective defector.

Kessler strongly believes Yurchenko was a true defector. He even got the Soviet spy to acknowledge that if he was to give up his kidnapping story and admit that he had defected, he would be executed as a traitor.

Kessler provides evidence that it was the CIA's poor handling of Yurchenko, and Yur-

When Yurchenko read about his defection in the Washington Post, he came to the conclusion that 'the CIA is not a serious organization.'

chenko's being spurned by a lover in Canada, that led to his change of heart and subsequent return to the his homeland.

During the three months Yurchenko was in the United States being debriefed by the CIA, the agency was not able to provide a Russian-speaking interpreter for him. Having to constantly speak in English added even more strain to an already very stressed-out individual. The CIA guards' habit of treating Yurchenko as a prisoner — they kept him within eyesight at all times, including sleeping in the same room — also made Yurchenko question how much he was appreciated.

Kessler uses the Yurchenko case to shed light on the bureaucracy that envelopes the CIA. Yurchenko's CIA handler knew how the defector felt about the guards' treatment of him. However, the agent was unable to do anything about it because the guards were from a separate department, meaning

he had no control over them.

Kessler says the biggest blow to Yurchenko's defection came when the CIA leaked the story to the press. When he defected in Rome, Yurchenko had only one request: that it be kept completely secret so the family he left behind would not suffer.

When Yurchenko read about his defection in the *Washington Post*, he came to the conclusion that "the CIA is not a serious organization."

Kessler does a good job making the story enjoyable by not getting bogged down in reciting just the facts. He paints a clear picture of what Yurchenko was going through at every stage of the game. He also provides good insight into the CIA's institutional contempt for defectors, and how that attitude led Yurchenko to question his decision to try life in the United States.

By Pat Malach
Emerald Managing Editor

U.S. hockey team 'bullies' for gold

MERIBEL, France (AP) — Whether the U.S. hockey team is bullying its way through the Olympic tournament or just doing what it takes to win, it keeps driving closer to its goal of golden glory.

Scuffles and skirmishes marked another game but didn't prevent the Americans from beating France 4-1 Tuesday night and moving within one victory of the gold-medal game.

"The bottom line is we win and people can say whatever they want," U.S. captain Clark Donatelli said. "I don't think we're a dirty

team. We're a hard-working team."

The United States (5-0-1) advanced to Friday's semifinal against the winner of Wednesday's Finland-Unified Team game. The Americans, assured of no worse than fourth place, are in the Olympic medal round for the first time since winning the 1980 gold medal.

While Tuesday's game was less intense than the United States-Sweden match the day before, it still was rough, America's Bret Hedican said.

Swede off hook for hit

MERIBEL, France (AP) — Sweden's Mats Naslund won't be suspended from the Olympic hockey tournament for a stiff check that sent American Greg Brown to a hospital and U.S. officials into a rage.

Gordon Renwick, vice president of the International Ice Hockey Federation, said Tuesday referee Seppo Makela's judgment that Naslund did not intend to hurt Brown was the final word.

Brown, released Tuesday after an overnight hospital stay, was "doing fine" and was "up and around," U.S. team Dr. Dave Joyner said. He suffered a broken nose, a concussion and a 12-stitch gash above his nose.

"Whether or not he'll be back on Friday (for a semifinal game) will be up to our doctors," U.S. coach Dave Peterson said after Tuesday's 4-1 quarterfinal win over France.

NANCI GRIFFITH LATE NIGHT GRANDE HOTEL



TOUR '92

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 22
8 PM

HULT CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

687-5000 TICKETS \$15

TREK. The All-Terrain Advantage



While everyone is trying to get rid of "older model" close-out bikes, Trek and Collins Cycle would like to give you the opportunity to save \$120 on a newly released 1992 mtn bike. For a limited time only, you can buy a Trek 6000 aluminum mountain bike for only \$499.95.

The Trek 6000 is built to handle the heavy use of serious off road riding. Quite possibly the strongest bike in its class. And the U.S. made bonded

aluminum frame is up to 20% lighter and 17% stiffer than steel. Get the comfort, quality, and performance you deserve.

Buy the 1992 Trek 6000 Mountain Bike.

For the latest in bicycle technology and the best in friendly, knowledgeable service,

head down to Collins Cycle Shop, Eugene's Trek bicycle dealer.

TREK 6000
\$499.95

TREK USA
American Bicycle Technology

A tradition of professional service for over 35 years.



Store Hours:
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm
Sat 9am-5pm

(503) 342-4878 • 60 E. 11th Ave.
on 11th St. Between Oak and Willamette

PRE-REGISTRATION ADVISING

PLAN TO SEE YOUR ADVISER SOON
FOR ADVICE ON SPRING TERM SCHEDULING

Special Advising Outreach This Week

EMU Main Lobby
Monday & Tuesday, 12:00 - 2:00 PM
Thursday & Friday, 12:00 - 2:00 PM

Cedar Room C, EMU
Wednesday, 12:00 - 2:00 PM

- Quick Answer Advising
- Undeclared/Pre-Major Progress Reports & Transcripts available (bring photo I.D.)

Sponsored by Academic Advising & Student Services
164 Oregon Hall
Drop-In Advising M - F, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM