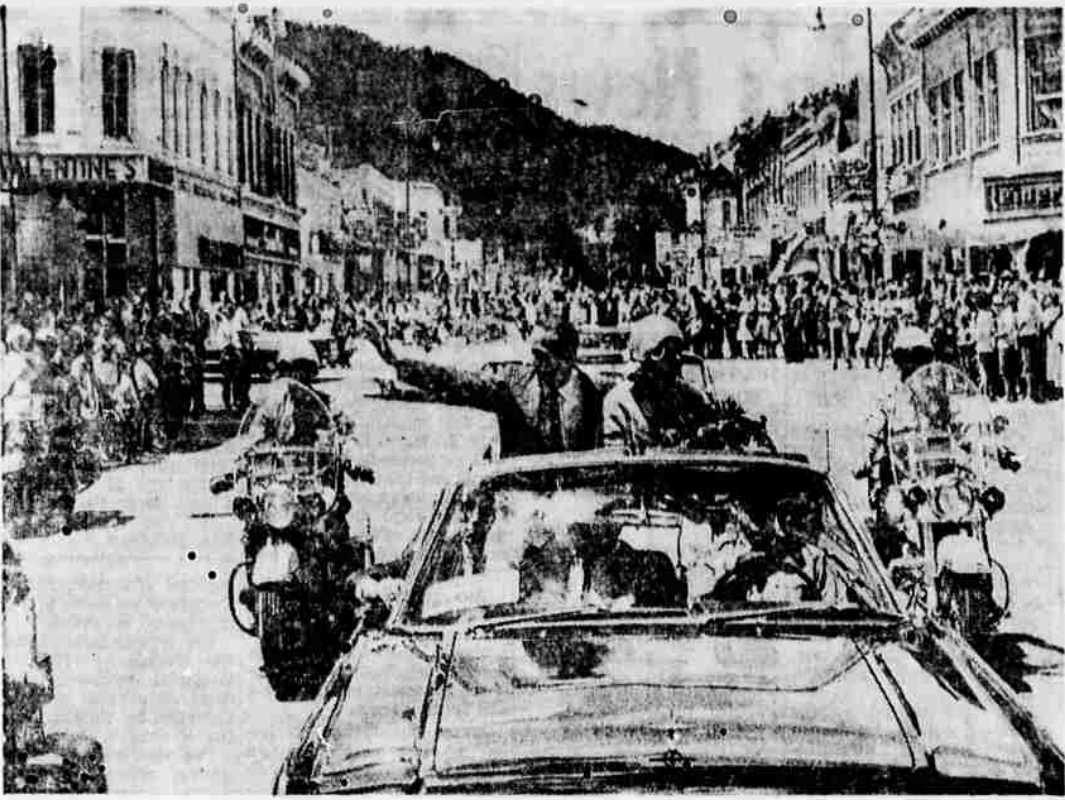




**CARPENTER WELCOMED** - Astronaut Scott Carpenter and his wife, Rene, ride in an open convertible at the head of a motorcade through downtown Boulder, Colo., after they were honored at ceremonies at Folsom Stadium. Boulder is Carpenter's home town. (UPI)

**Illusions Shattered**

**Spy Defends Unorthodox Methods In Interview With Dick West**

By DICK WEST

Washington —(UPI)—One recent enchanted evening a lady at the canape table pointed across the crowded room to a bearded stranger standing by the bar. "There's someone you ought to meet," said she. "How so?" "He used to be a spy," she said, "and he has written a book about his experiences. I understand that he's a fine writer but a lousy spy."

Mother always told me to beware of bearded strangers, but curiosity overcame me. I winked my way through the

millling herd and shortly was talking with Peter Tompkins, who introduced himself as the author of "A Spy in Rome." He explained that he was once a newspaper correspondent in Italy and that during the war he spent five months behind the lines as an intelligence agent for the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). As tactfully as possible, I mentioned what the lady had said about his being a better writer than a spy. "Actually I was a very good spy," Tompkins said. "This criticism comes from people who have never been spies themselves. They have fixed notions about how a spy should operate. If a spy doesn't behave in

the traditional manner the non-spies sneer at him even if he had excellent results." I asked Tompkins what he was supposed to have done wrong. "For one thing, I kept a diary," he said. "That is considered bad form. Traditionally, a spy writes everything on a tiny slip of paper so that if he gets caught he can swallow it. "What else did you do?" I asked. "I kept copies of the daily intelligence reports," he said. "Couldn't have managed without them. A spy who destroys everything is likely to get hopelessly confused." "Anything else?" I said. "There was a feeling back in headquarters that spies

should get their information from the people we had been fighting against," Tompkins said.

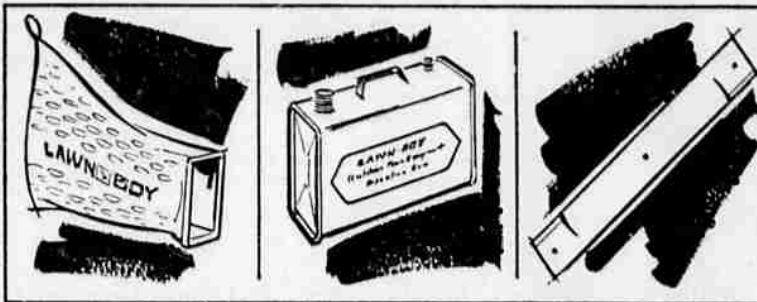
"I took the position that the people who had been fighting on our side were likely to be more reliable."

Tompkins insisted that his unorthodox methods paid off, and for all I know they did. But he certainly shattered my illusions about spying. During the entire five months, he never once wore a cloak or carried a dagger.

**Population Rise Is Ahead of Hospitals**

New York —(UPI)— Since 1946, the increase in hospital beds in the United States has not kept pace with the rise in population, the Health Information foundation reports. Population growth has been 28.5 per cent while hospital beds (a hospital's way of rating patient capacity) have increased only 15.5 per cent.

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