

To be like James Bond – a few words about spies

To your eyes only



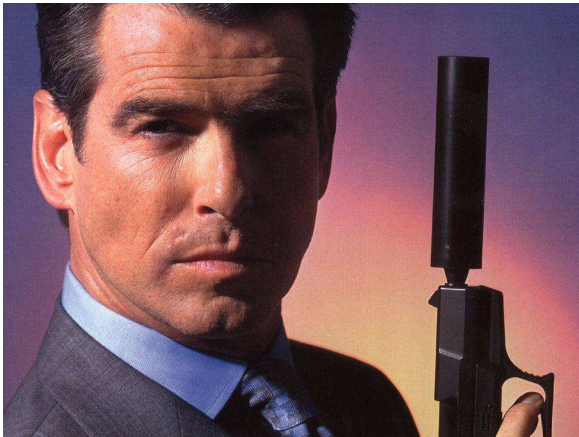
Weapons, suits, sport cars, smell of gunpowder, petrol and extremely expensive perfums. The world of agents and intelligence has fascinated us for ages. Intelligence is one of the few organisations that the less information is known about it, the more popular it is. James Bond, Jason Bourne, Hans Kloss, lieutenant Borevich – is there anyone who hasn't heard about them and wasn't fascinated with their breathtaking adventures?

No identification card with name or smiled photo

The better is the intelligence, the less visible it is and the more information it assures. Its main aim is obtaining secret datas that aren't provided to them, using not really legal methods. Analysing foreign governments, following military actions, tracing trade, economy, industry and disposing other spies – that's the endangered life among espionage. To reach this they need the great knowledge of adjusting behaviour to the circumstances. That's why most of the agencies has special databases focused on eg. what an average lower-manager has in his pocket or how did the passport edited in Lebanon in 1973 looked like. Everywhere they have to hide their personality, in every innocent pleasure find a source to get necessary info as well as they can't boast with their latest achievements to their friends. Despite of all, we admire spies, but really don't want to replace them in their job.

Observing not being observed

The history of the intelligence has started in the prehistorical times when one tribe wanted to know whether the other one has found in the forestland what kind of axes they use. And one of the warrior stayed hidden somewhere in the wood searching for anything worthy to know. Years, however has brought the development of machines and gadgets and without them an agent would not be able to work properly. Global Positioning System, Internet, binoculars, wireless connection, microphones were invited due to intelligence actions. As well as the technology, the stereotype of a spy has changed. In post-war times a spy was connected with a sad man in a log, black coat and a hat covering his face in a black Volga, now he's a smiled, handsome guy in an unzipped shirt in a convertible Aston Martin.



You won't be glad to meet him alone in darkness

with foreign spies and people causing threats to national security), MI6 (British office collecting information on organisations and countries that lay in the array of its interest), MOSSAD (Israeliian bureau responsible for collecting political and technical datas abroad due to dangerous situation with neighbour countries), KGB (Soviet organisation keen on nuclear security, protecting the borders, protecting VIPs) and many others not stated here.

My name is Bond, James Bond

The typical example of a spy is James Bond, an MI6 secret agent working to the Secret Service of Her Majesty's the Queen. Handsome, well-educated, romantic, fearless commander of Royal Navy with a licence for killing (double '0' in front of the number) has been searching and defeating the enemies of the Kingdom all over the world. He always wears perfectly fashionable clothes, drives fastest cars, drinks only 'shaken, not mixed' martini smoking Cuban cigars. And no wonder that such a cynical, twice married widow, always contacts only most beautiful women.

And I'm writing this article in a simmlar situation as you probably are in the moment. I'm sitting comfortably in front of my PC, sipping my tea with lemon, being absolutely unconsciuous of the fact there may be someone observing me, who knows everything about me, whether they are only interested in it. And the question is whether espionage is a mean of patriotism, way to provide national security or rather tyranny.

Wojciech Bańczyk

aim – cel
bureau – agencja
convertible – kabriolet

espionage – szpiegostwo
fearless – nieustraszony
lieutenant – porucznik

provide - zapewnić
uzipped – rozpięty
wireless – bezprzewodowy