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THE SUBMINIATURE TIMES

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Case, 4.99

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Camera: Minolta-16 MG
Film: Fuji HS-U ISO 100

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COLLECTOR'S ITEM. Sharp eyed Steve Kessler of Burbank, CA., found an interesting article in the June, 1940 issue of "Popular Photography". Hopefully someone can name the camera at the top of page 3.



Bilingual signs warn against taking pictures in certain areas in the Canal Zone.

Former Naval officer John Farnsworth (center) who photographed Navy secrets for Japan.



INCE the introduction of the camera into espionage activities, the whole system of spy strategy has been changed—and its effectiveness has been increased alarmingly. No longer is it necessary to steal military codes—which would be changed as soon as the theft was discovered. The modern way is to photograph them and replace the code books before they have been missed. No longer must trained agents stealthily enter forbidden areas to sketch secret machines of war or hidden fortifications. Now they photograph them through telephoto lenses—from a mile away.

Audacious agents are now equipped with powerful, accurate lenses that can be hidden in a cane or a watch; film that can pierce heavy atmospheric haze or record images in total darkness; shutters that click swiftly and silently, stopping the motion of lightning-fast planes or speeding tanks. These are the spy's new tools.

Reports from Europe tell how camera-spies are working overtime, in spite of heavily enforced photographic restrictions and alert counter-espionage officers. In our own peaceful country restrictions are less severe. But the agents of the Army, Navy, and the Federal Bureau of In-

with a CAMERA

By ALFRED TOOMBS

PART I

FROM confidential files comes this amazing story of how espionage agents have stolen military secrets with the aid of cameras.

vestigation, who are Uncle Sam's spy hunters, have compiled a detailed record of the devices and ruses employed by those who have made a new criminal career by combining espionage and photography. In their confidential files are told the stories of camera-spying in this country and in other countries the world over.

One of the most recent stories concerns the arrest, in the Panama Canal Zone, of as brazen a band of camera-spies as have yet been turned up. On October 16, 1938, three men and a girl drove up to the sentry-box outside Fort Randolph at the Atlantic entrance to the Panama Canal. They were Hans Heinrich Schackow and Gisbert Gruos, employees of the Hamburg-American Line in Cristobal; Ernst Robert Kuhrig, who ran a typewriter repair shop in Colon; and Ingeborg Gutmann, a pretty stenographer working for the Hamburg-American Line. The men were dressed in sports clothes and Miss Gutmann was in a riding outfit. To all appearances they were sightseers.

They requested permission to enter and take a hike along the Canal. The sentry asked if they had a camera and was told that they did not. So the group was permitted to enter and no more thought was



Three of the four persons involved in the Canal Zone camera-spy case are led to court by an officer. Left to right they are Ingeborg Gutmann (fined), Hans Schackow (convicted), Gilbert Gross (fined). Kuhrig (not shown) was convicted.

given to the matter until they failed to return within a reasonable time.

A searching party was sent out. After crossing some difficult swamp land they came upon the group near Galeta Island. This is part of the first line of the Atlantic defense of the Canal. The Army officials were suspicious when they found the hikers in such an important area. One member of the searching party accidentally kicked a large sea-shell and discovered a Leica camera hidden under it.

The Germans were questioned. When their film was developed it was revealed that they had taken six pictures. These showed views of two gun emplacements, a new military road, and a stretch of the water's edge from which projected an oddly-shaped, pointed rock. It was unmistakable that a landing party assigned to take any certain area would like to know the location of guns guarding the spot, the location of the nearest good road to the interior, and some well-defined landmark to guide them.

With this in mind, the Army started to investigate. It was learned that this was not the first camera work done by Germans in the area. They came to the conclusion that the German consul was acting as a clearing agent for the forbidden photographs.

Schackow and Kuhrig were brought to trial. Although they claimed to be innocent amateur photographers, they were found guilty of espionage. The jury believed the prosecutor when he pointed out that they had spent several hours with their cameras in an area "which has no charms for uninterested parties." The evidence against the girl and Gross was

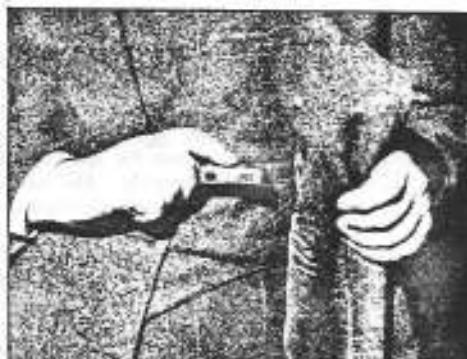
not strong enough, it was felt, to warrant prosecution on espionage charges—although the evidence at the trial showed that both knew a great deal about what was going on. Miss Gutmann and Gross were each fined \$250 for "willfully entering and trespassing on United States fortifications. . . ."

But one of the most effective jobs of espionage was turned in by John Farnsworth, ex-officer of the U. S. Navy and a traitor to his country. The effectiveness of his work was made possible because of his understanding and use of photography. He is now in Atlanta penitentiary, serving a sentence of from four to twelve years for spying on the American Navy and selling its secrets to Japan.

Farnsworth was brought to trial in Washington, D. C., where he had made his headquarters, and pleaded *nolo contendre* (no defense). That meant that he neither admitted nor denied his guilt and meant further that he would have no trial. When this became known, the Navy heaved a sigh of relief—because, if Farnsworth's methods of duping his ex-comrades had been brought out at a trial, a storm would have been kicked up that would have left the gold



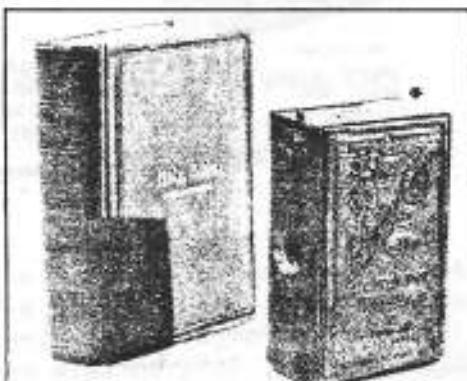
A tiny Japanese camera, worn as a wrist watch, which could be used for spying.



The Minox camera, commercially available, takes 50 pictures; is easily concealed.



A dummy field-glass conceals an efficient little plate camera. Its purpose is plain.



Made in a book-like case, the camera at the right is compared with a real book.

Spying with a Camera

braid boys hanging on the gunwales. The court records in the case were thrown open recently and it became possible to read Farnsworth's own story of his amazing exploits as a cameraman and traitor, the first the Navy ever produced. He told how he had been hired by Japanese diplomats as a "consultant."

One of his first assignments was to go to New York at the time of the big fleet review there and make photographs of certain naval vessels. He was an expert photographer, having pursued it as a hobby while he was an active Navy officer, and his knowledge of the ships made it possible for him to obtain exactly the pictures which were wanted.

"I was never told what these pictures were for," he said. "But they presumably were for silhouette work."

The Japanese were pleased and asked for more. He obtained additional photographs from the Navy Department in Washington, he says, and augmented these with pictures he had made while he was in the service. He had an extensive collection, made during his sixteen years of duty.

His operations became more daring, he said, and he was so uncharitable as to name the old friends who had been foolish enough to entrust confidential material to him. He tells how one day he was chatting with a friend in the Navy Department when he noticed a set of reports on this officer's desk dealing with the aircraft carrier *Ranger*—reports which the Japs were anxious to have.

He explained to his acquaintance that he had been arguing about that ship with another officer down the hall. He asked if he might borrow the reports for a few minutes to show to this man. Farnsworth got them, sped out of the building, and went downtown in a cab. Copy photos were made hurriedly of the reports and Farnsworth was back at the Department in an hour. He had aroused no suspicions. (Continued next month)



Nice gift for stamp and coin, kit and model fans.
Focus knob. Reg. 9.95.
#63-851 ... Sale 5.95

\$5.95?

As long as you're involved with miniaturization you're going to need a handy magnifier. The Micronta is excellent at the 30X magnification. It's on sale now at Radio Shack. You won't see this price again for a long long time.

ALCHEMY: DIVIDED WE STAND

"My Developer is Better Than Yours" is always a fun column. We get back to mixing and bubbling. The basics.

In October, '91, we tried HC-110 developer with some apprehension about the shelf life of the unused concentrate. More than a year has passed. Our bottle is half full, and the concentrate is still good. So much for the apprehension.

Rodinal is going to have problems. There is a rising tide of concern about the new bottle and new formulation. It's a short-lived rosé now, rather than the reassuring ageless burgundy we grew up with. Perhaps someone thought that 100 years of a good thing was too much!

Divided developers are the grand champions of shelf life. With reasonable care against cross-contamination you could process an infinite amount of film.

This sounds like Sludge City to one-shot users who'd need a powerful reason to consider a divided formula. How about a five stop speed increase?

We haven't tried this one yet, that's why there are no comparison photos. File this issue, we'll refer to it in the future.

SOLUTION A

Water, 100°F	24 oz.
Metol	100 gr.
Sodium sulfite	1 oz. 64 gr.
Hydroquinone	100 gr.
Water to make	32 oz.

SOLUTION B

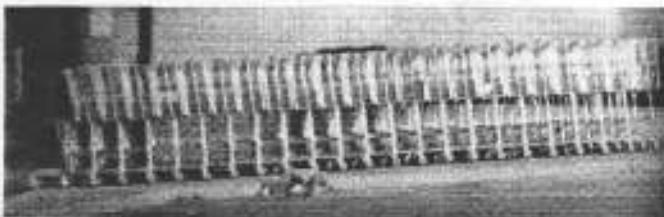
Water 100°F	24 oz.
Sodium carbonate*	30z. 200 gr.
Water to make	32 oz.
*Fine grain substitute	
Borax	1 oz. 365 gr.

INSTRUCTIONS. Solution A for 2 minutes, then Solution B no agitation for 2 mins. Go to 80°F at double the developing times for underexposures as high as 5 stops. Contact Otha C. Spencer if you enjoy it. Shutterbug, P.O. Box F, Titusville, FL 32781.

A RECENT CALLER inquired about the Minolta MG-S. The camera does have a manual aperture setting mode, and may work fine without the battery.

FREE CLASSIFIED

PK 420 Electronic Wristwatch Cameras, a pair. With cases, chemical bottles, syringes, developing tanks. Brooklyn Camera Exchange. (718) 462-2892.



DON'T KNOCK THE EC. Longtime Minox owners keep saying that the Minox B is still the best of the breed, giving short shrift to the EC model. We're currently wringing out an EC, and promise some surprising eye candy for you in upcoming issues.

THIS LITTLE 110 CAMERA

I just invested in a floppy hat and dark glasses. I'd like to buy a Minolta Weathermatic-A, but the prices I've seen lately are much too high. Hopefully the local pawn shop owners don't know about the Christie's auction.



If I can find a preowned Weathermatic-A for less than the price of a Ferrari I'll wrap it and put it under the Christmas tree with a nice card. I'll be surprised and appreciative.

Actually, it'll be a different holiday from the one I'd planned. Originally, I wanted to go to the Minox factory. We'd stand outside in the snow, singing hymns. Mrs. D. didn't share my sentiment on that one. So I'm looking for an underwater subminiature.

There were three: the Weathermatic-A, the Wet 10 is on my long-range wish list, and I've given up trying to find a Minox underwater housing.



The new underwater 'disposables' available at any drugstore are cheap, small, and probably take great pictures; considering they use the 24mm x 36mm large format. But a 35mm camera would be uncomfortable around here.

The Weathermatic-A was introduced in May, 1980. It takes a 1.5V AA battery. The built in flash is good from 2.6 to 20 ft. with ISO 400 film. Recycle time is 10 secs. with an alkaline battery, 5 secs. with nickel-cadmium. Maximum flashes: 180 with alkaline, 90 with a NiCad.

The 26mm/f3.5 four-element lens gives an angle of view of 45°, or 34° underwater. The minimum focusing distance is 3ft., and the operating temperatures are 14°F. to 122°F. Optional accessories include a sportfinder, neck strap, carrying case, and extra O-rings.

It has symbol focusing, a two f/stop aperture selection, and a single fixed shutter speed of 1/200th sec.

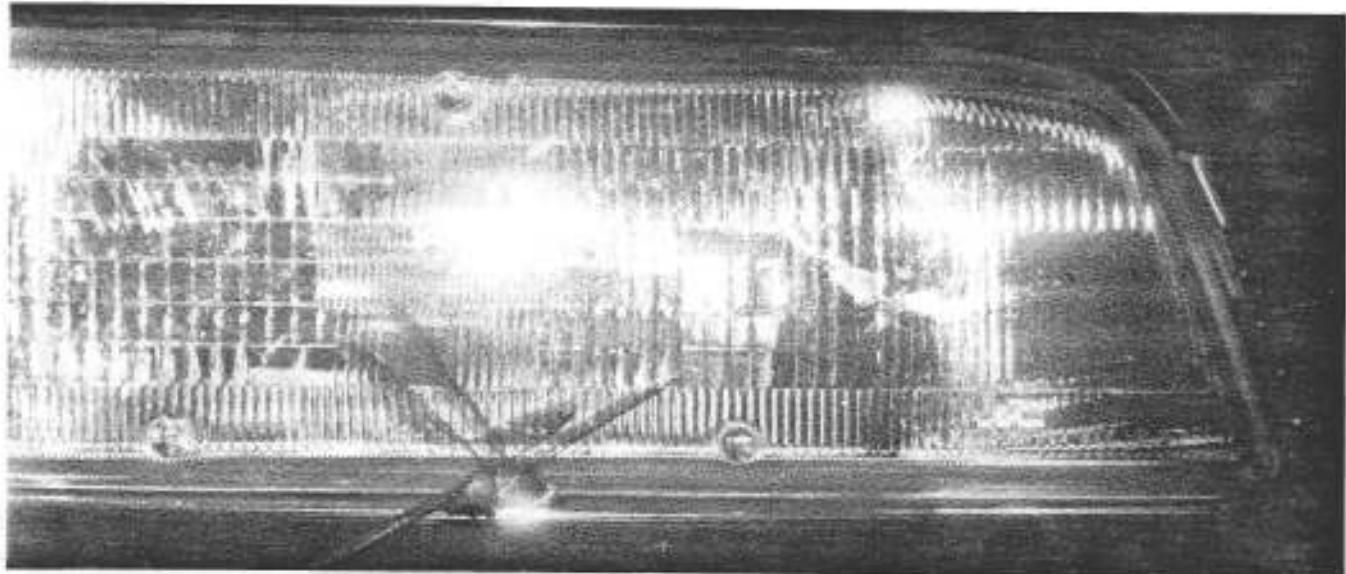
**The World's first
watertight pocket
camera**



The bright yellow case is easy to see from a distance on water or in snow, and will float. This isn't a professional deep water camera in a class with a Nikonos or anything similar. It's guaranteed watertight only to 15 ft. That's alright. I'm not going any lower (hopefully).

About the floppy hat and dark glasses, people talk. Go into enough pawn shops in Texas, and your neighbors will stop by with a food basket.

AL D.



'TIS THE SEASON to start looking for photo books if you prefer hibernation to hypothermia.

The best single source for historical and contemporary photographic literature is A Photographer's Place. Their newspaper size catalog is mailed out gratis. The section on camera collector's books took up a full page of the latest issue. Here's a brief sampling, "Spy, Subminiature, & Detective Cameras" (Auction catalog for Christies record setting Dec. '91 auction), "Collecting & Using Classic Cameras", "Collecting Photographic Antiques", "Cameras of the 1930's", "Spy Camera- The Minox Story", "The Japanese Camera", "Sub-

STOPPED AT THE LIGHT

Camera: Minolta-16P
with +2 Proxar

Film: Eastman Recordak 7460
Developer: Rodinal 1:500

miniature Photography", "The Evolution of the Japanese Camera", "McKeown's Price Guide to Antique and Classic Cameras", "The Pinhole Journal" ..issued 3X per year, and "The Photo Lab Index Lifetime Edition" everything you ever wanted to know about taking pictures, with quarterly updates. A PHOTOGRAPHER'S PLACE, P.O. Box 274, Prince St., NYC, NY 10012 (212) 431-9358.

ROLL YOUR OWN? Respoolers contact Adorama for "The Essential Darkroom Book", and "Amphoto Book of Film '92 Edition". It has specifications for every film on the market. ADORAMA, 42 W. 18th St., NYC, NY 10011. (212) 741-0052.

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GaMi enlarger	\$395 H	Minolta 110Z MK II	\$259 W	Minox LX	\$479 W
John Player cig pac	1695 WA	Minox 1st B	169 W	Riga	1000 W
Kodak 110 projector	100 W	1st B	149 W	Mycro IIIA	159 W
Mamiya-16 Auto	159 A	1st B	139 W	Narciss	499 W
Mighty	189 WA	2nd B	179 W	Robot II	225 B
Minicord III	399 W	2nd B	169 W	Tasco Bino/Cam	199 W
Minolta-16 P	69 W	C Black	549 W	Toyoca-16	295 WA
16 P	39 W	C Black	475 W	Vestkam	179 W
16 QT	44 B	C	179 W	Wristwatch Cam	25 H
110 Z	75 W	EC	209 B	Yashica Y16	59 B

A Adorama, 42 W. 18th St. NYC, NY 10011 (212) 741-0466

B Brooklyn Camera Exch., 549 W. 26th St., Brooklyn, NY 11210 (718) 462-2892

H Hayden Photo, 85 Queen St. E, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 1S1 (416) 862-8585

WA Wall Street Camera, 82 Wall St., NYC, NY 10005 (212) 344-0011

W Woodmere Camera, 337 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563 (516) 599-6013