

tact with the Soviet official in question. This official and Igor Vartanyan approached M-13, offering him "an unlimited amount of cash" for his co-operation. M-13 reported these facts to his superiors, and he effectively became a triple agent. The Soviets were confident that they were dealing with a "high level government agent."

The Soviets sought information on RCMP anti-Soviet operations, specifically:

1. How the Mounties were learning about Soviet undercover operations in Canada.
2. Names of personnel involved in these operations, their character assessments, traits and weaknesses, financial standing.
3. Intricate details of RCMP counter-espionage operations.
4. Security Service methods employed to expose Soviet espionage attempts.
5. What common information exchange exists between RCMP, CIA and FBI.

In return, M-13 supplied the Russians with carefully screened non-sensitive information or completely fabricated material and stories of no real consequence. The fact that the Soviets paid M-13 \$30,500 Canadian Dollars certainly indicated the length to which they were prepared to go to infiltrate the RCMP Security Service, and the importance they attached to this operation.

The Canadian Government had reportedly been told of these Soviet activities during the course of the investigation. In 1977, three other Soviet officials had already been expelled for spying. On each occasion the "attention of the Soviet authorities had been drawn to the damaging consequences of those inadmissible activities on relations between Canada and the Soviet Union." (Wording of diplomatic communiqué.)

Chronology of Meetings

The first encounter occurred on April 21, at the home of M-13. Our triple agent received his first instruction film of negatives in the form of signal codes plus verbal guidelines on how to signal for the next meeting at a Towers Store in Ottawa. Towers, on Cyrville Road, is a Shopping Centre situated in a primarily residential area. It is readily accessible from the Queensway, or by bus. The number of shoppers varies, ranging from a constant trickle at the beginning of the week to near capacity by Friday night and Saturday. The "signal" was a piece of coloured tape stuck on the outside of a roof support pillar. Tape width, height on the post from the ground, vertical or horizontal placement were key factors to the message conveyed. Thus the Soviet contact need only drive into the lot past the post to get the message.

Once M-13 called for a meeting, the Soviet reply tape was to appear on the east Crosswalk post at Kent and Gilmour Streets. Kent Street is a ONE WAY northbound street running between the Queensway and Parliament Hill. Rush-hour traffic and the height of the tape from ground level demanded that M-13 drive in the right-hand lane in order to see the tape at all.

There were four different meeting categories, roughly classified as: Constant, Regular, Instant or Brush, and Reserve.

In "Brush" meetings, few or no words are exchanged. Information is passed on by quick hand movements — like a relay race where the baton changes hands, or a pickpocket in a crowd where your wallet instantly disappears before you have a chance to miss it — the piece of paper or microfilm landing in the contact's pocket. This technique is frequently used in crowds, where such movements succeed unnoticed.

The tape colours, placements and meeting locations changed slightly for