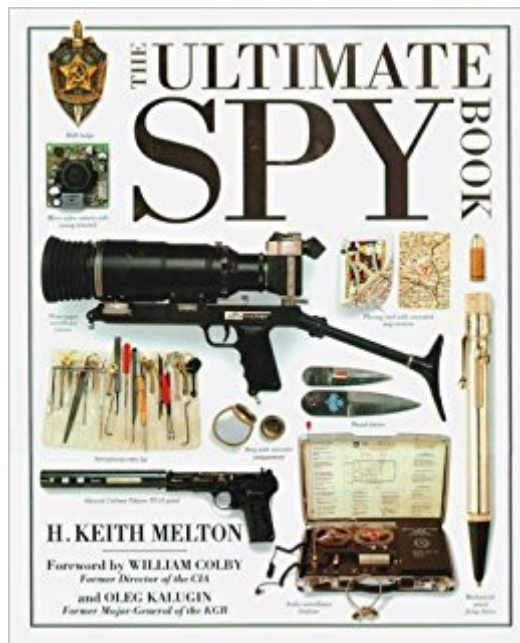


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The Ultimate Spy Book



Synopsis

The insider's guide to the secret world of espionage. An inconspicuous figure in a raincoat... border crossings at midnight... living under constant threat of betrayal and torture. Are these images from the movies -- or reality? Secretive and shadowy, the world of the spy is one that only a privileged few have understood. Now *The Ultimate Spy Book* gives you a unique opportunity to enter that world. Keith Melton, an adviser to United States intelligence agencies, reveals some of the best-kept secrets of espionage. Famous Spying Operations. Stranger than fiction, the true history of spying includes colorful characters, tales of intrigue, and exciting exploits. From the Civil War to both world wars and into the Cold War, *The Ultimate Spy Book* reveals what really happens in some of the most daring spying operations in history. Spy Equipment and Techniques. Keith Melton has amassed a dazzling collection of spy devices, many never before seen by those outside the world's elite spying agencies. Cameras that look like a pack of cigarettes are just the beginning: this book reveals listening devices, suitcase radios, hidden messages, microdots, assassination devices, and concealed weapons -- everything the well-equipped spy could ever need. How to be a spy. Discover the combination of quick wits and nerves of steel that makes a good spy. Learn about how spies are chosen and recruited, the training they receive, and the tricks of the trade. All the risks are revealed -- and all the rewards. For anyone who loves a good spy story -- or wants a glimpse into the world behind today's headlines -- *The Ultimate Spy Book* uncovers the clandestine activities that oil the wheels of international relations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Historian H. Keith Melton is a specialist in 20th-century espionage; he's also quite a fan of espionage gadgetry. Both interests make strong showings in this heavily illustrated glimpse into the shadowy world of modern spying. Melton examines the role of clandestine intelligence in revolutionary Russia and Nazi Germany, analyzes modern spy rings, and profiles a number of important figures in the demimonde of spooks, among them British code breaker Alan Turing and Yugoslav double agent Dusan Popov. He also showcases some astonishing hardware, ranging from suitcase radios to shirt button microphones and mechanical pencil pistols. Former CIA director William Colby and former KGB general Oleg Kalugin, who recruited the American traitor John Walker, contribute forewords.

YA?A wealth of information about the practice of spying, illustrated with a variety of well-captioned photographs, reproductions, charts, and sketches. The introduction puts forth the motivation for spying to be contained in the acronym MICE?money, ideology, compromise, and ego. There is a breakdown of the types of spies?couriers, double agents, defectors, saboteurs, moles, and more. Illustrations of their hidden devices and tools are also included. The sections on equipment and technique, clandestine communications, and weapons are fascinating. Here the sketches and photos are most compelling. A final chapter instructs on "How To Be a Spy" and includes training and recruitment, covers, and networks.?Frances Reiher, Fairfax Public Library System, VA
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Before purchasing this book I read all of the reviews, good and bad, and decided to go ahead and purchase it. I liked the format, with all of the sidebars and profiles, and all of the photographs. If one is looking for a "how-to" book, this isn't it. It is a basic overview of old school espionage, and the then tools of the trade. One reviewer stated that you can't suppress a revolver. Well, yes you can. Both the Nagant M1895, described in this book, and another Russian designed weapon the OTs-38, are suppressible. It's a combination of the cartridge design and the cylinder action when the weapon is cocked. Overall it was a fun read and I would recommend this book to anyone with an interest in how they did things, before computers. Yes, there was a time when there were no computers. It's amazing how civilization has lasted as long as it has without them! :-)

A gift to a relative. He enjoyed it very much.

This shows spy equipment from WWII to the cold war. It is a really interesting book with lots of

pictures. It is a great companion to Spycraft: The Secret History of the CIA's Spytechs, from Communism to Al-Qaeda, which tells the history of espionage from the cold war and beyond.

I'm fully satisfied.

The author is very knowledgeable and his collection of "gadgets" is truly astonishing.

I purchased this book used from a Goodwill but it is surprisingly like new. This book is an absolute must have for anyone into espionage. I borrowed the book some years ago from a public library and it's been on my mind since. There is some great history here with amazing photographs. Nice book!

purchased for my son

Informative if you just want basic info and nothing else.

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