

4) Lipstick Guns: The lipstick gun could be fired by clicking a ridged ring a quarter of a turn. It was a very small weapon so it was only useful at very close range.

Poison Pellet Weapons: These were weapons that shot pellets of a deadly poison. It only took a few hundred micrograms of certain poisons to kill someone! (Real espionage (spying) is not a game. It could get you killed!) Here are a few types of Poison Pellet Weapons:

1) The Assassination Pen: This was the size and shape of a fountain pen, but could deliver poison pellets or liquid poison

2) The Poison-Pellet Umbrella: There's a famous story about a Bulgarian man named Georgi Markov who was jabbed with an umbrella at a bus stop in London. "Pardon me. Sorry. Accident," the man with the umbrella said. But he'd just injected Georgi Markov with poison which killed him soon after!

3) The Blind Man's Cane: This was one of those heavy black canes with the curved handle and rubber cap on the end, and white tape wrapped up it in a spiral to indicate that the person carrying it was blind. What the white tape really did was hide the trigger which would activate poison gas coming out of an opening in the handle!

Hidden Cameras: Nolan's got this one down pat! But during the Cold War, there were no digital cameras, so secret agents had to use film cameras. Sometimes they hid them under their clothes, or in their briefcases or purses. Here are some examples:

1) The Necktie Camera: This camera was strapped around the chest under clothing and could take pictures through a "tie pin". It was activated by a remote control hidden in the secret agent's pocket.

2) The Book Camera: This one could take pictures through a finger tab like you see in some dictionaries or bibles. It was activated by putting pressure on the book's cover.

3) The Wristwatch Camera: This looked like a wristwatch and used a circular piece of film that could take up to six shots. Pictures were taken while the secret agent was pretending to check the time.

4) The Cigarette Lighter Camera: All the spy had to do to take a picture was aim the small metal cased "lighter" in the right direction and flip up the top, pretending to light a cigarette.

Listening Devices: Remember, the microprocessor has changed things a lot in the past fifty years. During the Cold war, they used microphones that linked to a transmitter or a tape recorder.

1) The Belt Buckle Microphone: A little microphone was hidden in the back of a belt buckle, and picked up sounds through a small hole in the buckle.

2) Book Spine Devices: If you open a hardcover book and look at the spine, you'll see that a little tunnel is created as the spine flexes open. Secret agents used to hide a long, narrow microphone/transmitter device into this opening, and when the book was closed it was invisible. Then the spy could put the book on a shelf in a room and listen in on secret conversations!

3) "The Thing": This was a listening device invented by the Soviets. It worked using radio beams and had no batteries or electrical circuits. One of these devices was discovered in the American embassy in Moscow, Russia. It had been hidden behind the Great Seal of the United States, which hung on the wall over the American ambassador's desk!