

German Wolf Releases Spy Memoirs

By Natalya Shulyakovskaya
STAFF WRITER

Markus Wolf, the former East German spy master known among Western agents as "the man without a face," because for decades no photographer could get near him, returned to his old stomping ground Thursday to unveil his autobiography to Russian readers.

Speaking flawless Russian and accompanied by fellow retired spies, the 74-year-old former director of the East German spy network talked about his youth spent in and around Moscow's Arbat in the 1930s, about his respect for the late Soviet leader Yuri Andropov and his disillusionment with democratic reforms.

Wolf grew up in the Soviet Union, where he immigrated from Germany in 1934 with his father, renowned playwright and Communist Friedrich Wolf and his brother Conrad Wolf, who would later become an acclaimed filmmaker in Communist East Germany.

He returned to East Germany after the war and worked as a journalist before joining the intelligence service.

One of Wolf's biggest coups was planting an agent in the office of West German Chancellor Willy Brandt. The discovery of the mole led to the 1974 resignation of the popular Nobel peace laureate.

Wolf spent 1990 and 1991 in Russia, hiding from the political turmoil in East Germany, leaving only after the August 1991 coup that overthrew Russia's communist regime and brought Boris Yeltsin to power.

After communism collapsed, Wolf was not allowed to forget his past.

He was tried three times in reunified Germany on charges of treason, abduction, and coercion while leading intelligence operations during the

1950s and 1960s.

In May 1997, he was convicted of four brutal kidnappings during the Cold War, but his sentence was suspended. Wolf has always maintained that he was innocent because he served his country and never broke its laws.

His book, the Russian edition of which is titled "Games in a Foreign Field," was first published in the United States in May 1997 under the title "Man Without a Face." The Russian publishers, which is printing 8,000 copies of the book, say the project is of an "altruistic and promotional nature."

Wolf writes that in 1991, he was approached by the CIA with an offer to move to the United States.

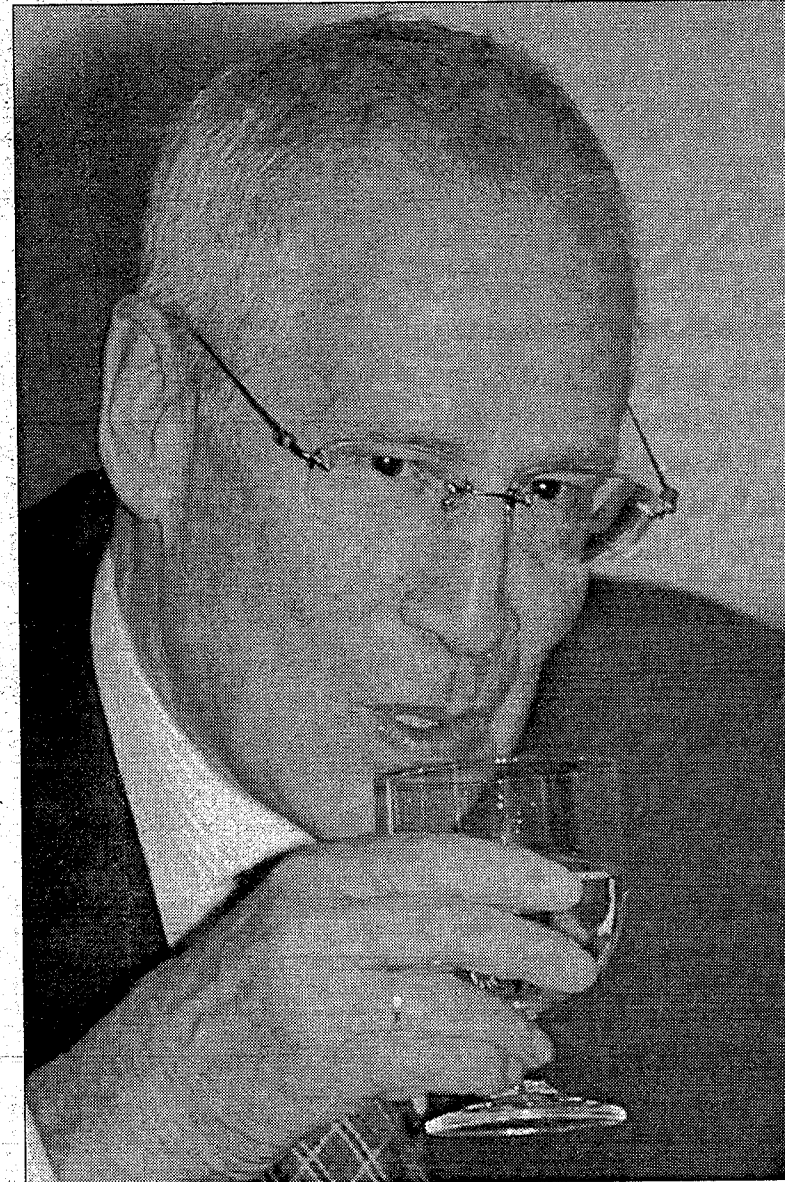
"They made some flattering remarks, offered me a villa in California under the eternal sun, and other conditions," he said Thursday. "I understood that the CIA was looking for a Soviet mole" within the agency.

In 1995, the mole — Aldrich Ames — was discovered. By that time he had handed over names of more than 100 U.S. agents to the Soviet Union and Russia in exchange for about \$2.5 million — the biggest failure in the history of the CIA. Some of the agents betrayed by Ames were executed.

After retiring in 1986, Wolf came in from the cold with "Secrets of Russian Cooking," a collection of recipes in which he compared the art of creating hors d'oeuvres with the fine art of spying.

Still looking fit and with a keen mind, Wolf says he has no regrets.

"I have 11 grandchildren now," he said. "The state I've served has collapsed, so I'm often asked if my life was spent in vain. At least because of them, I haven't lived in vain."



Markus Wolf, once East Germany's top spy, unveiling his memoirs in Moscow.

IN BRIEF

Bomb Injures Mayor

■ NIZHNEVARTOVSK, Western Siberia (Reuters) — The mayor of this major oil and gas center in Siberia was in a hospital in serious condition Thursday following an assassination attempt, regional officials said.

Regional oil officials said Mayor Yury Timoshkov was probably the victim of a struggle for power and influence over regional oil firms.

Timoshkov's driver and bodyguard were also hurt when a car bomb exploded as they drove past it Wednesday in Nizhnevartovsk, more than 2,300 kilometers east of Moscow.

"The essence of the bid to kill Timoshkov is the desire of a certain group to gain influence through the mayoral post on the Nizhnevartovsk budget and have an opportunity to influence oil companies here," said Yuri Shirmankin, deputy head of the Tyumen Oil Company.

City-Specific Visas End

■ MOSCOW (AP) — Starting next month, Russian visas will no longer list the cities that foreigners are allowed to visit, an official said Thursday.

Until now, Russian visas included a line called "points of visit," which listed the cities — typically between one and six — that the holder of the visa was allowed to visit. Visitors had to get special permission to travel to a city not listed on the visa.

Last year, President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree saying foreigners could move freely around the country, regardless of which cities were listed on their visas. But many airport officials remained unaware of the new regulation, and continued to block foreigners from traveling around.

DR. ZOYA ZARUBINA

Our speaker comes to us from Moscow, Russia. She graduated from high school in 1939 and attended the history department at Moscow State University.

Her father was a Russian general and during the war with Germany, she volunteered as a nurse, then as a German, French and English interpreter.

This lady has been involved in many world events during her lifetime. She worked in Teheran as President Roosevelt's hostess in the Soviet Embassy, as Churchill's hostess in Yalta and was one of the hostesses in Potsdam in 1945.



She translated the Atomic Bomb papers for Intelligence and was the interpreter for her country during the ten years of planning in the Conference On Security and Cooperation in Europe which was finalized as the Helsinki Accords in 1975.

She was Dean of the English Language Department at the Foreign Language Institute in Moscow before being appointed to start the first language training course for the United Nations which she directed for 10 years. During the past 25 years, she has worked at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Zarubina has traveled extensively and has taken part in numerous international conferences in Europe and the United States as an interpreter, member, then as head of delegations of war veterans, women and educators. She has been

active in several peace movements in Russia, Great Britain, the United States, India and Australia.

In 1988 she started a new independent movement -- International Educators for Peace and Understanding and serves as vice-president.

Dr. Zarubina is a spirited and intelligent speaker on Russia. She is very proud to have lived during the time wonderful and dramatic changes happened in her country and it is important to her that everyone looks at Russia from an historic perspective.

One of her main objectives is to help everyone understand the Russian people better and learn to live with them in peace, and not in mistrust, fear and hatred.