



Citizen Spy: Television, Espionage, and Cold War Culture

By Michael Kackman

University of Minnesota Press, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First.. 229 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In Citizen Spy, Michael Kackman investigates how media depictions of the slick, smart, and resolute spy have been embedded in the American imagination. Looking at secret agents on television and the relationships among networks, producers, government bureaus, and the viewing public in the 1950s and 1960s, Kackman explores how Americans see themselves in times of political and cultural crisis. During the first decade of the Cold War, Hollywood developed such shows as *I Led 3 Lives* and *Behind Closed Doors* with the approval of federal intelligence agencies, even basing episodes on actual case files. These documentary melodramas were, Kackman argues, vehicles for the fledgling television industry to proclaim its loyalty to the government, and they came stocked with appeals to patriotism and anti-Communist vigilance. As the rigid cultural logic of the Red Scare began to collapse, spy shows became more playful, self-referential, and even critical of the ideals professed in their own scripts. From parodies such as *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* and *Get Smart* to the more complicated global and political situations of *I Spy* and *Mission: Impossible*...



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