

Thomas Madden aka Steven Gilliam

“I’ll change their names in case some reconstructed quote or poetic exaggeration of mine is misconstrued to mean that one of these Soviets might be “turned” by the CIA. No one deserves to be pestered by surreptitious Yalies who couldn’t get into law school.”

-P.J. O’Rourke

You are Tom Madden, champion of justice, fighter for truth, and domestic operative for the CIA. It’s an exciting life of danger, mystery, and espionage, and you wouldn’t trade it for the world. Besides, you couldn’t get into law school.

You remember your first mission well. It was late March, 1951. You were to meet David Carroll, cryptographer, in Fresno. He had been sent some classified communications sent from Sacramento to a known KGB operative in San Diego. You were an up-and-coming young spy, and were thrilled by the chance to track down an unknown agent and break a massive spy ring. You arrived at the meeting point only a few minutes too late however; Dave was lying in a pool of his own blood, and you saw a shadowy figure running out the back door. You ran across the room, drawing your gun, and broke through the door into the alley behind. The mystery man was dashing to a car in the street outside, but you had the drop on him. Carefully, slowly, you lowered your gun and snapped off three shots just like they had taught you to do. Click. Click. Click.

Next time, load the gun before firing. you said to yourself. It was too late; the enemy agent jumped into the waiting car and sped off into the distance, leaving you to call HQ and get this mess sorted out.

Dave’s body was cleaned up and disposed of; his ties to the CIA were secret, and so he was categorized as a “missing person” for whom the revelation of how he died would be too dangerous to the agency. The codes were lost, but from the description of the car and the agent, HQ quickly determined that you had been ambushed by Ivan Sonavitch, the aforementioned KGB agent in San Diego. It would not be the first time your path was to cross his.

Over the years you have been the man on duty in the South West; you have investigated Anarchists in Arizona, Communists in California, Unionists in Utah, and Socialists in Nevada (they can’t all be alliterative). All the while you were tracking down the Big Kahuna of the KGB, the man who was behind every plot to overthrow the government- Ivan Sonavitch. Each time, you missed him only because of his extreme cunning. You nearly had him in Burbank when he tried to get several famous actors and actresses to join the Communists; he cleverly evaded you by scheduling his meeting for the day after daylight savings time; you had set your watch forwards instead of backwards, and by the time you arrived to bust up his meeting, he was two hours gone. You nearly got him in San Francisco when he was spying upon Senator Nixon; somehow, though, he

managed to disconnect the parking brake on your car (you *know* you had set it before you got out), and before you could grab him, your car began rolling down Telegraph Road, forcing you to chase it down to keep his dastardly scheme from killing innocent bystanders. You managed to stop the car before it did anything other than dent a few cars parked on the street, but the diversion allowed him to escape. And you almost had him when he tried to put subliminal Communist songs in the repertoire of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, but he escaped by yelling “Look behind you!” and when you turned to see what he was pointing at, he slipped away. Still, one day you’ll catch him and he won’t have any of his little tricks up his sleeve.

Your current assignment is in San Inguon, Arizona. San Inguon is a sleepy little town which is home to Ft. Lucas Rita and the adjoining Research Labs. General Cork, commander of Ft. Rita, suspects that someone within the Labs is a Communist spy and has been sending information to the KGB. You are sure Sonavitch is behind this, somehow. Unfortunately, your superiors point out that you’ve seen Sonavitch behind every plot for the last ten years (which he has been) and have yet to bring any proof of him in (which is true- he’s a sneaky little devil). Cork has requested that the CIA send someone to investigate these matters; you jumped at the chance to foil another of Sonavitch’s plots.

So you are pretending to be Steven Gilliam, a cousin of Sheriff Ward Barnes. Your story is that you’re coming in to town to see Ward while on your way to San Diego. You will stop over in San Inguon for a single day and gather as much evidence as possible regarding possible Communist spies. If necessary, you can pretend to have some scientific background and look for a job at the Labs, thus allowing you to extend your stay if necessary. Only General Cork and Sheriff Barnes know your true identity.

If General Cork is correct about a spy, then there must be two operatives within San Inguon. The first must be someone of importance within the Labs, someone who could be in the Labs at all hours and go to various departments without arousing too much suspicion. The second contact must be someone outside the Labs; someone whom the inner spy could pass information to and who would pass that information on to the KGB without being obvious about it. And somewhere in all of this mess lies Ivan Sonavitch.

Your first priority upon arriving in town is to make contact with the Sheriff, and establishing your cover. Once you have done that, you should meet with General Cork and go over the list of possible spies. Each of these people must be investigated to the fullest extent. Once you have determined the interior spy, you must then keep a close eye upon them to see if you can determine their outside contact. And once you have both of them pegged, you can move in for the arrest.

No Communist can stand for very long when Tom Madden is on their trail!

Stock quote: “Cease and desist, you ugly Communist swine!”

Mannerisms: Cross Maxwell Smart with Dudley Dornight. The more incompetent and obviously not what you seem you are, the better it is.

People You Know:

Ivan Sonavitch: You're sure he's hiding somewhere in town. It's obvious that he's behind all the problems in this town. Perhaps he's fluoridating the water.

General Hiram Cork: A great and bold man, devoted to the American ideals. Obviously, he knows that when a problem comes up he can't handle, calling in a CIA expert is the thing to do.

People You Have Been Briefed Upon:

Timmy Carroll: A high-school student who assists at the Labs. Hmm. As a general assistant, he has access to every department within the Labs. He is also known as a bit of a bumbler; a perfect cover for someone actually possessed of incredible skills and cunning (you should know; you've used that cover yourself). Admittedly, he's only seventeen, but he still may be a tool of some higher power. Look into him.

Dr. Marshall Fields: Head of the Chemistry Department. Known as a loner, he often keeps extremely late and strange office hours. Hmm. Perhaps he keeps to himself to keep others from finding out about his strange and heretical Communist viewpoint. And keeping strange hours would facilitate searching other Departments for new secrets. Look into him.

Dr. Lawrence Bates: Head of the Physics Department and Lead Scientist. As Lead Scientist, he would obviously have complete access to all of the Departments with no questions asked. And perhaps his eccentric and absent-minded demeanor is merely a cover for a brilliant criminal mastermind. Look into him.

Dr. Gerald Forbes: Head of the Biology Department. Underwent a complete change in personality two weeks ago after his wife died in a car accident. Has become withdrawn, antisocial, and spends a great deal of time locked in his lab. Perhaps his wife's death was not accidental, but instead a threat against Dr. Forbes to continue his spying services. That would make sense. Yes, and the great deal of time locked in his lab could be spent copying and encoding the secret of the Labs! Look into him.

Dr. Sarah Carroll: Recently promoted Head of the Astronomy Department. A good, conscientious worker who spends a great deal of time working in her department. Mother of Timmy Carroll. Unfortunately, General Cork believes that the spying began several months ago, and Dr. Carroll has only been in a position of power for a few weeks. Still, best not to take chances. Look into her.

Colonel Fred Daniels: Military commander on Ft. Rita. A good, honest and upright man. Definitely not a suspect in any way.

Goals:

1. Find out who is involved in the Communist Spy Ring. Find the inside contact and the outside contact. Make sure you have enough evidence to prosecute them for treason.

2. Find Ivan Sonavitch. He has to be here somewhere. Find him and watch him. Be careful, though. If you spook him off (no pun intended), he might warn the spy ring, and you'll never be able to catch the dirty crooks who are selling secrets to the Soviet Union!

3. Preserve peace, order, and the American Way. If anything comes up that you feel is a threat to the country, do whatever you can to stop it.