



David McCallum as Ilya Kuryakin

Why Teenagers Idolize Ilya

Los Angeles — Parents and teachers trying to decipher today's teenager will come up with some very reliable information by doing a little spying on a popular character called Ilya Kuryakin, featured each week on "The Man from U.N.C.L.E."

This intelligence comes from Ned Hoopes, executive director of the National Council of Teachers of English and a leading advocate of using commercial TV as a launching pad for dialogue between teacher, student and parent.

"An analysis of the appeal of Ilya," Hoopes observes, "may not reveal any startling new insights about adolescent mood and attitudes, but it should heighten an adult's awareness of them. By looking at Ilya, one can see a composite picture of the contemporary adolescent personality."

Ilya Kuryakin (pronounced "kur-ee-OCK-in") is played by David McCallum, and although the role was originally conceived to provide a "straight man" and comic relief for series star Robert Vaughn, who portrays Napoleon Solo, this season he is virtually the star of the program, says Hoopes.

Why has Ilya, "a frail-looking secret agent with a Russian accent, bangs and an enigmatic smile," become so popular with teenagers? Hoopes, who teaches in Manhattan's Hunter College High School, offers several reasons.

Just as other generations of American adolescents needed idols like Horatio Alger ("diligent, courteous, honest poor boy who won infallible success and riches by his creative cleverness and hard work") and James Dean ("the brooding, fragile figure" whose "tearfulness" has become a symbol of teenage rebellion), teenagers today need a figure who is a solitary one, and the teenager can identify with that world. He sees himself as a figure travelling alone down an apparently deserted road leading to a complex and confusing adulthood.

While real spies are rather dull, "Ilya is a spy with verve," and though it is Napoleon Solo who appears to be the suave, thoroughly competent agent, it is Ilya—who looks like a teenager—who comes through in the clutch.

"He is in one sense the old-fashioned independent spirit under bondage to no one," comments Hoopes. "Yet he can exist successfully in the very modern scientific twentieth century. He grasps what is happening around him, he recognizes the enemy, he understands his position in the world and, above all, he knows what to do."

The fact that he does it in such a free-wheeling style appeals to teenagers, who "seem particularly to need freedom—a chance to respond directly but without responsibility." But even though "he manages to dress and act in an unorthodox way," Ilya can fit within the framework of a vast organization like "U.N.C.L.E.," which stands for the fictitious United Network Command for Law and Enforcement.

"The organization, U.N.C.L.E., itself must be rather reassuring to the youngster living in a chaotic and tense period of history," Hoopes notes. "The initials remind one of the genial, top-hatted symbol of our nation, as well as that favorite relative who is strong, kind and generous, but not a disciplinarian."

Even Ilya Kuryakin's Russian name and accent, he adds, "seem especially appealing to the modern adolescent who is more politically and ethnically conscious. Ilya, by implication, proves that not all Russians are evil and also that a man's differences can be his strength."

Hoopes, who has expressed his views in articles, symposiums, and at several TV seminars sponsored by Fordham University's Communication Center, urges teachers and parents to try to understand why various TV shows have appeal for adolescents—and suggests that the best way to do this is to ask the teenagers themselves. This is an excellent way, he says, to build communication between adults and adolescents and, besides, teenagers "have definite ideas about their favorite television shows and heroes and they should be encouraged to express them."

For one thing, "teenagers can become aware of aspects of their own personalities as reflected in their particular viewing choices," and for another, "they will not have to be told that much of what they see on their set at home is dishonest, unreal, and designed to anesthetize their sensibilities, but they must be given the opportunity to discover the fact for themselves."

Not long ago, Hoopes took his students through a classroom discussion of "Peyton Place," allowing the students to make observations.

"Some of these students, who seldom contributed to previous class discussions," he said, "suddenly became active participants, revealing perceptive and original insights, pointing out that the program almost excludes the real world. One teenager objected to the fact that no one ever laughs in the world of Peyton Place, and a little girl said that the most amazing thing to her was no one in the town ever watches television." — (Catholic Press Features)



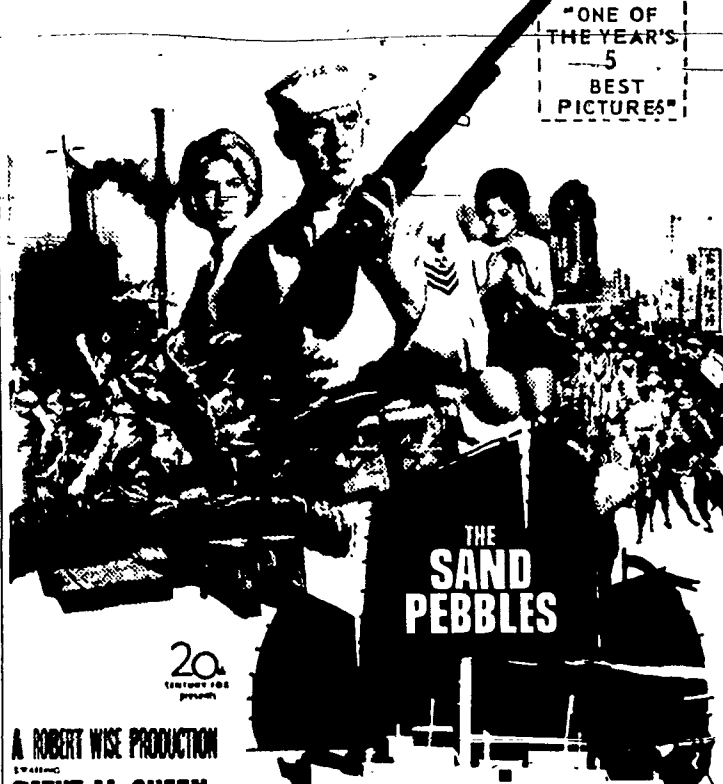
Blackfriars Present 'Blood Wedding'

A mother, played by Gisela Fritzsche, is haunted by the deaths of her husband and eldest son. Death is theme in Lorca's "Blood Wedding" to be presented by Blackfriars at Our Lady of Mercy High School auditorium May 19, 20 and 21. Richard Mancini is director. Tickets at the door.

Family Rosary Radio Leaders

Monday, May 22 — Father Frederick Eisenmann, SS. Peter and Paul's, with Knights of St. John.
Tuesday, May 23 — James C. Vicari, St. Francis of Assisi.
Wednesday, May 24 — Anthony Lambiase, St. Andrew's, with members of Holy Name Society.
Thursday, May 25 — Robert Dunning, St. Pius X.
Friday, May 19 — Vito Sanangelo, Precious Blood parish.
Saturday, May 20 — Edward Masar, St. Patrick's.
Sunday, May 21 — Paul Ryan, St. Rita's, West Webster.

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12 COURIER-JOURNAL Friday, May 19, 1967

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15 Yr. Woman's Bowling Club

Any woman who has bowled with a sanctioned league for more than 15 years is eligible to join the 15 Year Bowling Club.

A club party is to be held at the Country House in East Rochester on June 8.

Any woman interested in club membership, or party reservations should contact Mrs. Robert Spack, 240 Birch Lane in Webster. Her phone number is 671-5803.

Aquinas, B.

Aquinas and Bishop Kearney High Schools proved victorious in parochial track competition last week. The Aquinas team defeated McQuaid, 78-58, and Cardinal Mooney, 85-50. Kearney smashed the Mooney squad, 91-45.

Against Catholic High School foes Aquinas is 2-0, Bishop Kearney 1-1, McQuaid 1-1, and Cardinal Mooney 0-2.

In non-dual competition last week McQuaid set a pair of records at the Hornell High School Invitational Track and Field Meet.

A summary of last week's meets follow.

McQuaid-Aquinas
 In the Aquinas victory over McQuaid two of best performances to be turned in by area trackmen resulted. The "timed" team from Aquinas (comprised of Neil Duffy, Mike Gruttadauria, Don Hall and Denny Clark) shaved four seconds from the county's "best" effort Aquinas' Bob Newman and McQuaid's Erik Hansen both pole vaulted 12 feet 4 inches.

In the triple jump Dan Stahlecker of Aquinas set a school record with a leap of 40 feet two inches.

Mooney-Aquinas
 Otis Davis set a pair of Cardinal Mooney school records, but the picture was otherwise bleak for the Cardinals as Aquinas triumphed by a score of 85-50.

Davis won the 100 yard dash in a 9.9 clocking, and turned in a 22.5 time in the 220'. Both are the fastest times to be run by an-area trackman.

Winners for Aquinas included miler Dan Holden, half-mile Bob Testa, two-miler Dick Fitz-Harris, and 440-man Neil Duffy. Aquinas' hurdlers Jerry Schrot and Terry Dolan were also victorious.

Mooney's Earl Lenhard set a school record in the triple jump with a measurement of 41 feet, 8 1/2 inches. Jim Harrington of Mooney won a double winner.

Kearney-Mooney
 A pair of Bishop Kearney

Fine Dining Around Town

The area's newest and most talked about restaurant, The Buccaneer, on Empire Blvd. is a must for those who enjoy fine dining and unusual atmospheres. The Buccaneer's menu features charcoal broiled steaks and a complete selection of delectable sea food as well as other entrees. Under the direction of Paul Messina and Carmen Coletti the Buccaneer promises to be an adventure in fine dining. Serving luncheons and dinners from 11:30 to 1 A.M. daily. Friday and Saturday 'til 2 A.M. Closed Monday.

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New Movies Reviewed

The following are the titles of films reviewed this week by the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures.

Class A—Section 2
 Eight on the Lam

Class A—Section 3
 Casino Royale
 The Hunt
 Two for the Road

Class B
 Banning
 OBJECTION: Low moral tone.
 The Viscount

Class C
 Run for Your Wife

Martyrs Shrine Pilgrimage Set

A pilgrimage is planned to the Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Midland, Ontario on June 24 and 25. A Trailways bus will leave Midtown-Plaza on the 24th at 8 a.m. and return Sunday at 9 p.m.

Transportation, lodging, meals and tips included for \$30. Deadline for reservations, June 16. For information: Joseph Zimmer, 7 Carl St., Ft 2-4039.

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REFUGEES: GET THEM JOBS

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

"Our food is gone and we are hungry," he told Monsignor Nolan in Jerusalem. "I've looked everywhere for a job." . . . Seventeen years old, a Palestine refugee, he had come to our office for one week's food (\$2.50) for his mother and younger sisters. His mother, a widow, is blind. . . . "If I had a job, we could keep the family together," he said. "Without a job, what will I do?" . . . Meanwhile in Bethlehem, 30 minutes away, eight young refugees on Pontifical Mission scholarships (\$275 each) were completing their training as carpenters, electricians, tailors and mechanics in the famed "Salesian" Fathers' school. They now have jobs, and they'll never need our help again. . . . For only \$275 altogether (\$23 a month) you can give a deserving young man the self-help craft he needs to take care of himself for life. We'll select him carefully, ask him to write to you, and you may meet him if someday you go to the Holy Land. Training him can be your way of winning the war on poverty overseas, as the Holy Father urges. . . . Our goal this year is 100 new scholarships (\$27,500). Will you give one, or more than one? Name the scholarship(s) for someone you love, or in memory!

WATCH FOR THIS WEEK'S LETTER

Remember the Palestine refugees? They're the people (they now number 1.3 million) who lost their farms and jobs in Palestine as a result of the Arab-Israeli war 19 years ago. For those still cooped up in UN camps, the Pontifical Mission this week by mail tells about them, the children in particular, asking your help in the Holy Father's name.
 \$1,500 puts new equipment in Father Roberts' home for deaf mute youngsters in Lebanon.
 \$125 buys the sewing-machine a young girl needs to support herself.
 \$120 feeds a needy family all year. \$10 is food for a month.
 \$2 gives baby a warm blanket.

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