

FIFTH ESTATE: SPIES LIES & SECRET WEAPONS

FACTUAL



PRODUCER

Claude Vickery

DURATION

60 minutes



A secret fight, a secret weapon and a big score for secret spies.

SYNOPSIS

It was a fearsome weapon, part missile and part torpedo. In 1977, after more than a decade of research and development, the Soviet Navy secretly introduces the rocket-powered supercavitating Shkval torpedo. By travelling in a gas-generated cavity of air, the weapon can reach speeds not previously thought possible.

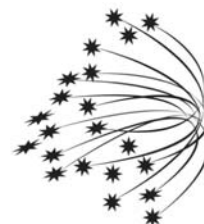
Although it flies through water at 100 metres per second, the early-version Shkval is not guided and

can only travel in a straight line. However, if equipped with a nuclear warhead, it could blast any enemy submarine before there is time to react.

The Russians had developed it and the Americans were determined to get it. But doing so would be highly complicated. Would they rely on arms dealers and middlemen? Could it be obtained through one of the former Soviet Republics? Would it take a spy to find out the real

secrets of the Shkval?

In the end an unassuming Canadian finally sealed the deal, but there were many twists along the road to obtaining the super missile.



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