TOP 10 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COLLECTION

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Museum. Although we wish you had time to stop at every display and look at every artifact, we know there are just not enough hours in the day! So, we’ve taken the time to list our choices of the “not to miss” artifacts and displays.

LIPSTICK PISTOL AKA THE KISS OF DEATH
LOCATION: School for Spies
The lipstick pistol, used by KGB operatives during the Cold War, is a 4.5 mm, single shot weapon. 
*Question to consider:* In what situation would an intelligence officer use this device?

INCREDIBLE SHRINKING BUGS
LOCATION: School for Spies
Take a look at this case and examine how these listening devices aka “bugs” have transformed over time. From the size of an adult’s fist to that of a pencil eraser, these bugs have evolved through time but have served the same purpose...listening in without being detected. *Questions to consider:* Where in your classroom would you place a bug and what kind of Intelligence would you overhear? Is it ethical to spy on others? When is it ethical? When is it unethical?

RECTAL TOOL KIT
LOCATION: School for Spies
An unconventional way to hide objects, this concealment device was filled with escape tools that could be stashed inside the body where it would not be found during a search. *Questions to consider:* We don’t even know what to say about this except that it’s something not to miss!

BUTTONHOLE CAMERA
LOCATION: School for Spies
An unsuspecting eye is unable to detect this camera hidden behind the right middle button of this ordinary coat. For a spy, this camera provided a perfectly positioned lens to secretly photograph individuals or places. To take a picture, the spy would squeeze a shutter cable hidden in the coat pocket which caused the middle part of the button to open and snap a picture. *Question to consider:* Today, everyone practically has a camera connected to their phone. Do you think that a device similar to this type of camera is still useful?

THE GREAT SEAL AKA THE THING
LOCATION: School for Spies
Given to the United States Ambassador to Russia in 1945 as a sign of “friendship,” this replica of the Great Seal of the United States had an ulterior purpose. Inside the carved wood, the Soviets planted a bugging device in order to spy on the Ambassador in his Moscow residence. *Did you know?* The bug embedded in the seal was discovered accidentally after a British radio operator heard a conversation through an open radio wave. *Question to consider:* What was the technology used to build this remote listening device?
PIGEON CAMERA

LOCATION: Pigeon Camera

Before U-2 planes and satellites and after hot air balloons, there were pigeons. During WWI, carrier pigeons, outfitted with a small camera, flew over military sites to gain images of the enemy’s weapons and armor. Take note of the birds’ wings in the edges of the photos! *Question to consider:* How else were these photographs used during this time?

COAL CAMOUFLAGE KIT & EXPLOSIVE COAL

LOCATION: Behind Enemy Lines

This device, shaped to resemble a large piece of coal, was hollowed out to conceal explosives during World War II. After the coal was thrown into a boiler, the device detonated. *Did you know?* This camouflage kit included paint so that an agent could make the explosive shell match the color of the local coal.

WASHINGTON LETTER

LOCATION: The Library

Back on February 4th, 1777, George Washington sent a letter to Nathaniel Sackett with instructions to create a spy network. This group of spies was given the task to send misinformation to Britain. *Did you know?* Because of the age of the document, it can only be shown at the Museum for two months out of the year.

ENIGMA MACHINE

LOCATION: Code Breaking

Throughout World War II Germans used the Enigma Cipher Machine to secretly communicate with each other. Because of its complex nature, the Germans believed the Enigma provided an unbreakable code. Unfortunately for them, the Allies were finally able to crack the code and intercept the messages being sent. *Question to consider:* Many believe that World War II would have lasted longer if the Allies had not cracked the Enigma code. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

ATOMIC SPIES

LOCATION: The Bomb

The atom bomb, one of the biggest secrets of the 20th century, was eventually lost through a web of spies. In this room, listen to the audio as it explains the people involved in leaking the secret. *Question to consider:* What government secrets do you think exist today? What would the ramifications be if they were lost to our enemies?

COMING NOVEMBER 16, 2012...Exquisitely Evil: 50 Years of Bond Villains

James Bond may be the best known spy in the world, but he is nothing without his enemies. The International Spy Museum is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the launch of the James Bond films—from 1962's *Dr No* to 2012's *Skyfall*—with an exhibition that explores the power of the Bond series through the unique lens of his villains: their diabolical schemes, lairs, henchmen, and weapons. The exhibit places Bond and the villains in historical context, exploring how the evildoers and their plots have changed to reflect their times. What better way to hook your students into examining historical flashpoints than through the fantastic world of Bond?