IST An Espionage Series

ANNA CHAPMAN

THE SPY WHO BECAME A CELEBRITY

In June 2010, Anna Chapman (b. 1982), a Russian national, was arrested in New York City along with nine others on suspicion of working for a spy ring under the Russian Federation's external intelligence agency, the SVR (*Sluzhba Vneshney Razvedki*). Her cover as a Manhattan real estate businesswoman had been blown after meeting with an FBI agent pretending to be a Russian official.



Chapman plead guilty to conspiracy to act as an agent of a foreign government without notifying the U.S. Attorney General. Weeks after her arrest, she was deported back to Russia as part of a prisoner swap, the largest since 1986. Her fellow Russians welcomed Chapman home, and the government awarded her a medal for her work.

Her good looks made Chapman a focus of the media spotlight. Upon return to Russia, she posed for a men's magazine and walked the runway as a model for Moscow Fashion Week. She currently hosts a TV show called "Mysteries of the World" on Russian television.



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