



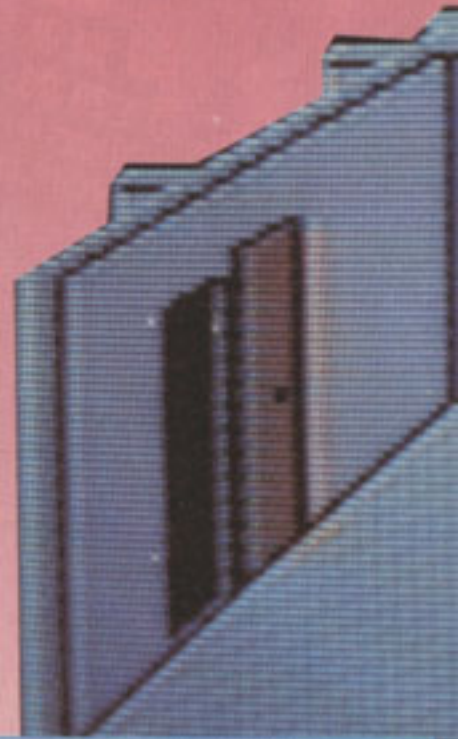
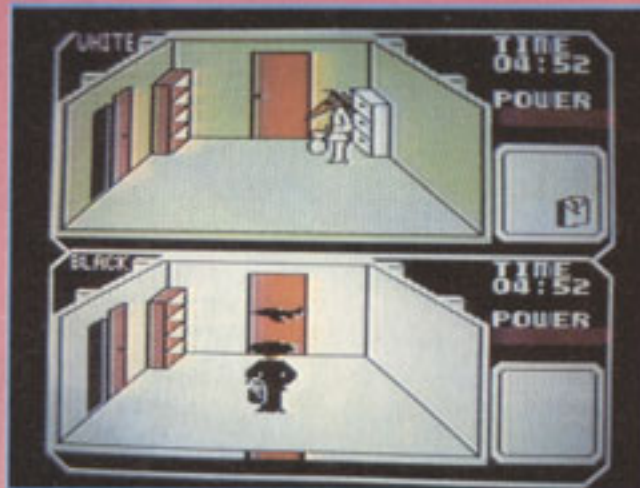
SPY VS SPY

Those dirty rotten scoundrels of MAD magazine have appeared in three different games on umpteen different games systems, and now the original classic game of underhand dirty tricks and cunning finally makes it to the Nintendo!

There are eight missions-worth of espionage terror on offer in the NES conversion. In all of them the object is remarkably simple. A selection of top secret items have been secreted around a complex and it's the player's job to get in there and retrieve them. Each mission has a different map layout to conquer and the size of the complex increases on each level.

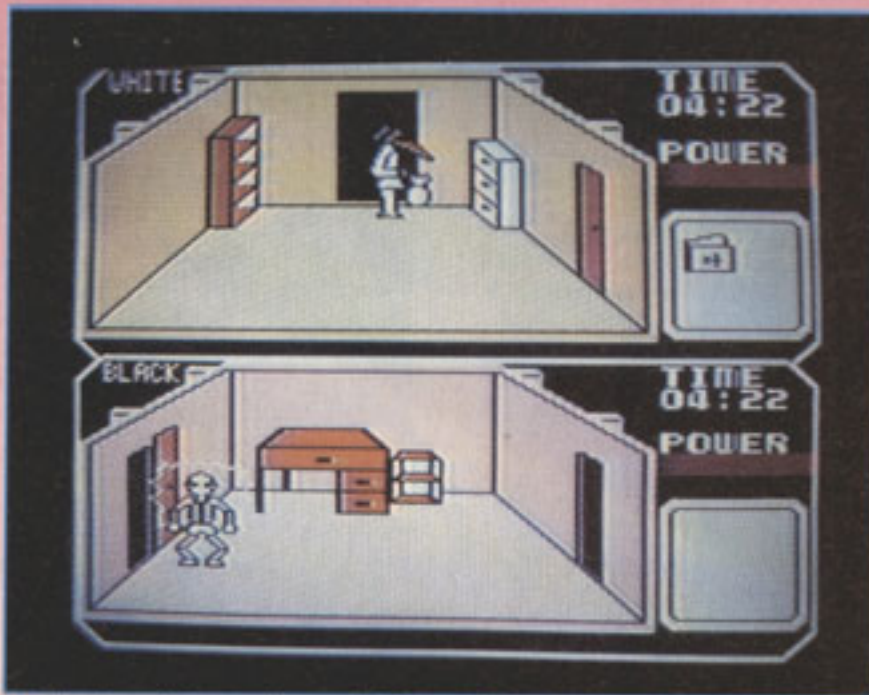
The task of spying sounds pretty simple and indeed it is. The problem is, there's another spy in the complex with exactly the same mission in mind. It's a good thing you packed your trapulator in your spying trousers, and you can use the traps it contains to keep your opposite number at bay.

Each level has a strict time limit, so you have to retrieve those items and find the getaway plane before the complex goes the way of the dodo. There's only one winner (and one getaway vehicle) in this game, so make sure it's your spy who has the last snigger as you leave the opposition to their doom!



▲ Black reaches customs, but White's got all the items!

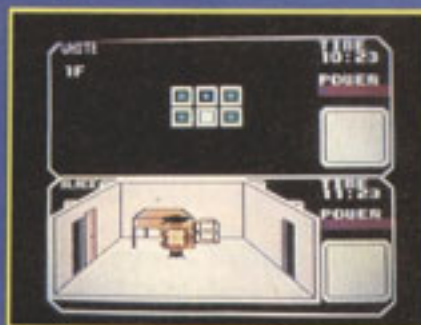
▼ Items can be stashed behind pictures!



▲ Electrocutation excitement in Spy vs Spy!



▲ The White Spy uses his map to locate a hidden item, but Black has left a nasty electrified bucket of water on the door!



▲ Black thinks he's onto a winner - one of the objects is in this room. Unfortunately, White's left a dynamite surprise for him!



▲ The joke's on the White Spy, though. Black left a time bomb in the room - Boom-shank!



▲ Revenge is sweet - and non-fattening! The Black Spy locates an item and falls foul of a well-placed deadly spring.



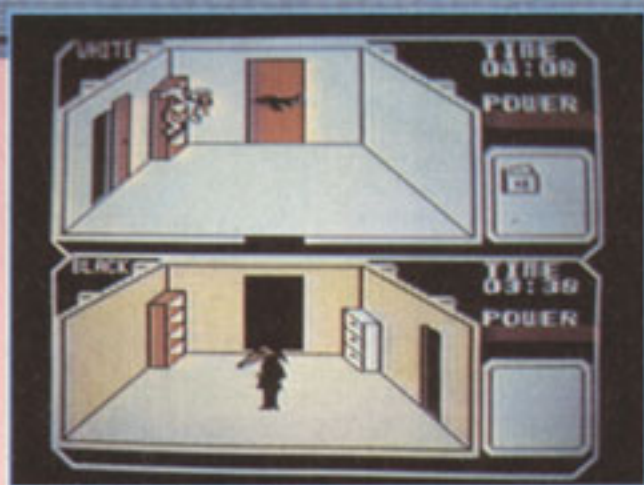
SPY

SPIES LIKE US

Three Spy vs Spy games have been written so far - but not for the console market. This NES game is a near perfect copy of the original Spy vs Spy and is the best of the bunch by far. The follow-up, The Island Capers, introduced scrolling scenery and napalm coconuts (!) whilst Spy vs Spy III - Arctic Antics was really more of the same and had you throwing lethal snowballs at your enemies.



▲ Aaow! Black becomes a bad memory.



▲ Black reaches customs,



▲ A snigger from Black as White buys the farm!



▲ Ladders appear to link later levels.

COMMENT



MATT

Spy vs Spy is a truly terrific game of lethal cunning. It doesn't really stand out that much as a one-player game, but get your mates to join in and watch those hours literally burn away! The graphics aren't really much cop, but at least they're well animated and the Spys' dastardly sniggers have been captured perfectly! But it's the fun of springing one of the hilarious traps on an unsuspecting spy that really makes this game. A great little number and no mistake.



▲ White thinks he's got all the items and heads for the airport. He's forgotten the papers though, and customs are rather brutal!



▲ The Black Spy has all the items and heads for the airport - meeting the White Spy on the way! A clash of clubs ensues and Black emerges victorious.



▲ It's a race to the airport as Black collects all the objects. He escapes just in time! Boop! Hiss! Doesn't White look stupid?

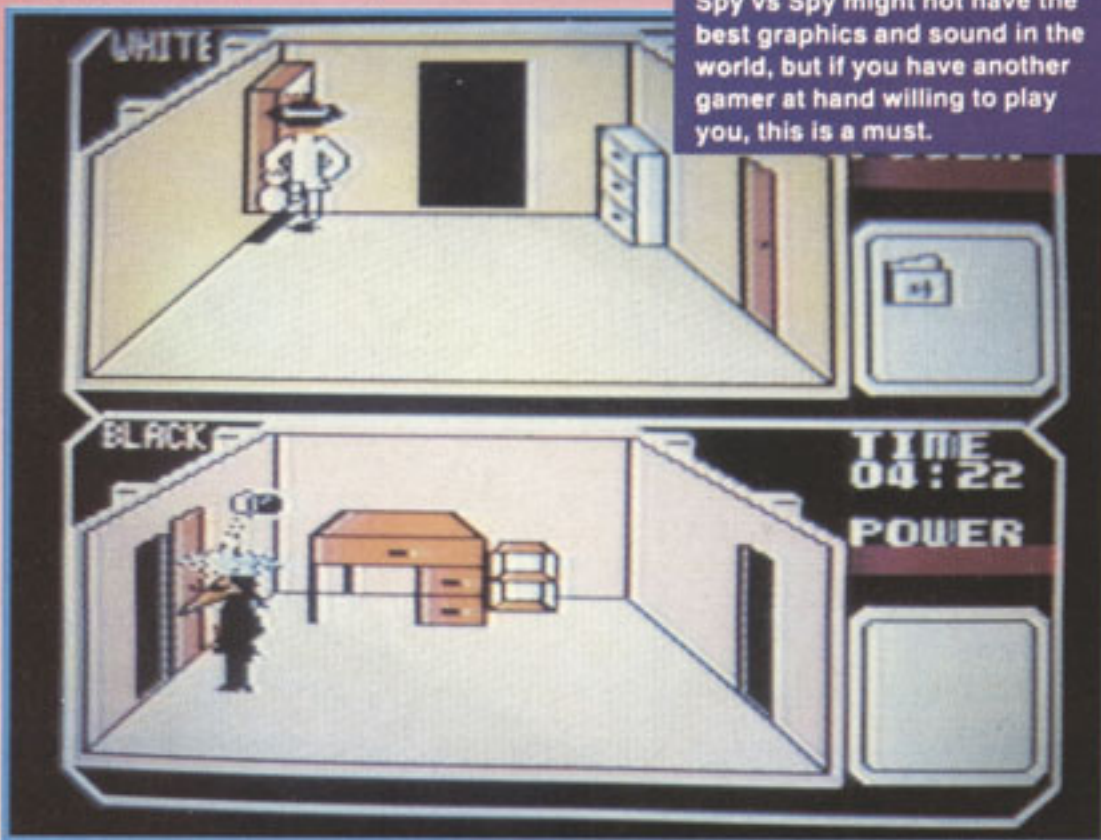


**SEGA SPYING
EXCITEMENT**

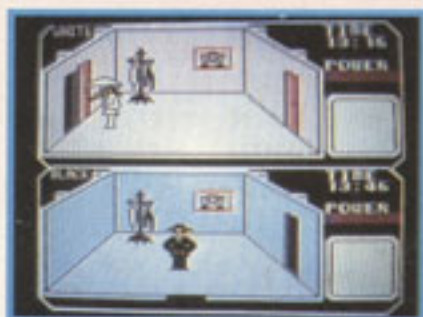
If you're a Sega owner swooning over this little NES number, swoon no more. You'll no doubt be over the moon to learn that the same game as the corker reviewed here is out and about in a software emporium near you for the dead cheap sum of £9.99! All the fun and cunning of the original is there to be savoured, so go ahead and savour it - NOW!



▲ Clubs out for a quick scrap!



▼ Black is stunned into immobility as White avoids the electrified bucket caper!



**UPHOLSTERY
EXCITEMENT**

All of the secreted items are hidden in the furniture of each complex. Look out for items like the briefcase and the top secret files. But that's not the end of all these furniture frolics. Some items can be discovered that will protect you from certain traps. An umbrella, for example, will save your head from cascading buckets of electrified water.

COMMENT



Spy vs Spy is one of the finest two-player games I've ever seen, and allows the combatants to pull the lowest, sneakiest, meanest tricks and stunts ever devised in a

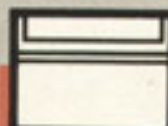
JULIAN

computer game. There's nothing more satisfying than letting your opponent think he's just about to escape with all the goodies when in fact you've secretly booby-trapped the door to freedom a few minutes earlier. Watch him frazzle as he opens the door, and then grab the goodies yourself and make a getaway! Brilliant!! Even with one player it's fun (the computer opponent is no dummy), but to really appreciate the game it's best to have a human opponent. Spy vs Spy might not have the best graphics and sound in the world, but if you have another gamer at hand willing to play you, this is a must.



BY: NINTENDO
PRICE: £19.99

RELEASE DATE: NOV
GAME DIFFICULTY: MEDIUM
LIVES: 1
CONTINUES: 0
SKILL LEVELS: 2
RESPONSIVENESS: FLUID



PRESENTATION 79%

Different skill levels abound, but there's a distinct lack of comic-book style presentation screens.

GRAPHICS 73%

Not the best use of the Nintendo's palette, but the humorous atmosphere is successfully captured.

SOUND 73%

Again, not totally awesome, but the sonics do the trick quite nicely, thank you.

PLAYABILITY 88%

Brilliant! Satisfaction guaranteed with each trap successfully sprung!

LASTABILITY 85%

Eight levels to keep you going, but the action isn't that varied.

OVERALL 84%

A classic two-player game packed with fun, cheeky laffs, and a lot more besides.