

SOE Signalling Torch



Special agents needed to keep their communications secret

Using radio or shouting to each other, was very risky

With a signal torch, messages could be sent in Morse code

A normal torch would have been too visible over a wide area

So a signal torch, emitted a coloured narrow beam of light

It was ideal for use in woodland or built up areas

In the open the light was readable for hundreds of metres

So great care was needed that the enemy did not see the beam

The torch is made of brass and very rugged

The U2 batteries rarely needed replacing

A spare bulb was built into the Morse key cover

Morse could be sent up to four words per minute

Try sending some Morse on the torch

SOS ... --- ...