



## Soviet Spy Drug Fights Hangover

A drug that the KGB invented to keep heavy-drinking spies on their toes will be sold to Americans as a hangover cure.

Developed by the Russian Academy of Sciences in the 1970s, the RU-21 hangover preventative is based on sound physiology. When alcohol enters the body it is absorbed by the cells, which convert it into acetaldehyde. A toxic compound, acetaldehyde is believed responsible for causing hangovers. RU-21 has two effects, according to its marketer, Spirit Sciences of California. First, it slows the production of acetaldehyde. Then, it stimulates the cells to produce an enzyme that converts acetaldehyde into less toxic acetic acid, which the body then excretes. Spirit Sciences plans to have RU-21 for sale at major retailers this year.



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