

A Different Evening
International Film Club at Ahmedabad University
(In Memory of Prof. Niranjana Bhagat)

Date: **December 27, 2019, Friday.**

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Ahmedabad University Auditorium,
GICT Building, Near M G Science College.



Name of the Film: **Official Secrets**

(Based on the book: "The Spy Who Tried to Stop a War" by Marcia Mitchell & Thomas Mitchell)

Date of Release: August 30, 2019 in USA. (Yet to be released in India)

Director: Gavin Hood (Winner BAFTA Film Award + 29 Awards + 8 Nominations)

Cinematography: Florian Hoffmeister

Music: Paul Hepker + Mark Kilian

Genre: Biography, Drama, True Story

Duration: 1 Hour 52 Minutes

Awards: (4 Awards + 3 Nominations + being a 2019 film, many more expected)

Also known as: Secretos de estado

Actors:

Keira Knightley (2 Oscar Nominations + other 28 Awards + 97 Nominations)

Ralph Fiennes (2 Oscar Nominations + other 41 Awards + 100 Nominations)

Matt Smith (Primetime Emmy Winner + other 6 Awards + 15 Nominations)

Katherine Kelly (5 Awards + 14 Nominations)

Audio Language: **English** Subtitles: **English**

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 High Definition (720p)

About the film:

A morality tale for the 21st century, Official Secrets tells the true story of British Intelligence whistle-blower Katharine Gun who, during the immediate run-up to the 2003 Iraq invasion, leaked a top secret NSA memo exposing a joint US-UK illegal spying operation against members of the UN Security Council. The memo proposed blackmailing smaller, undecided member states into voting for war. At great personal and professional risk, journalist Martin Bright published the leaked document in The Observer newspaper in London, and the story made headlines around the world. Members of the Security Council were outraged and any chance of a UN resolution in favour of war collapsed. But within days, Bush declared he no longer needed UN backing and invaded anyway. As Iraq descended into chaos, Katharine was arrested and charged with breaching the Official Secrets Act. Martin faced potential charges too. Their legal battles exposed the highest levels of the governments, in London and Washington DC.

Trivia about the Film:

Yasar Gun, Katherine Gun's Kurdish husband from Turkey, was later deported from the UK. She now lives in with him and their young daughter in Turkey.

During the time when the Bush administration was pushing for war with Iraq, it was widely reported in the U.S. press that US relied on the British intelligence, which in turn was dealing with an Iraqi informant. The British affirmed that none of the information that the informant provided over several years, had turned out to be true. After being rejected by the British, the informant began selling information directly to the Americans. After the invasion on and the occupation of Iraq, it was proven that all of his information was indeed false.

When Secretary of State Colin Powell learned that the information he was given for his presentation to the United Nations was false and intentionally misleading, he was so disgusted that he resigned from office. For one example the false evidence that he presented included photographs of some metal tubes. Photographic analysis showed that the tube walls were far too thin to be used as suggested and were quite ordinary.

Tagline: Nothing is more dangerous than The Truth.