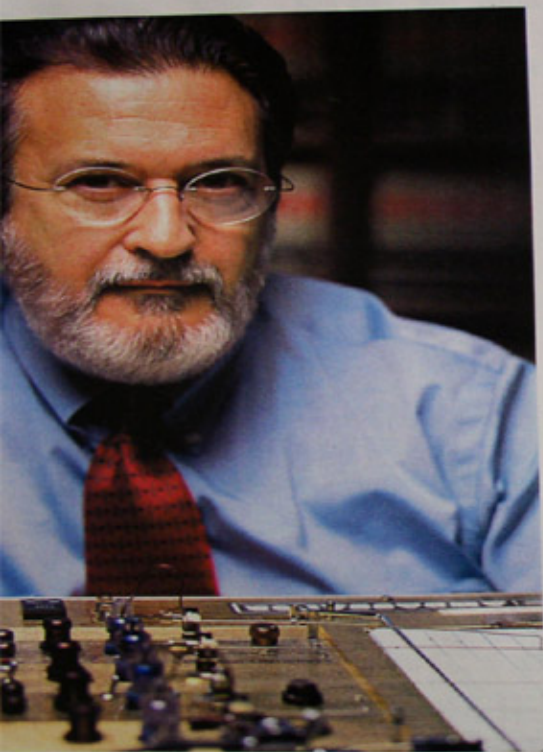


REVOLUTIONARY MINDS

INTRODUCING THE SMARTEST, MOST CREATIVE,
MOST ACCOMPLISHED PEOPLE IN PHILADELPHIA

SUPPOSEDLY, PHILADELPHIA IS SUFFERING FROM A BRAIN DRAIN. SUPPOSEDLY, WE'RE LOSING CARLOADS of smart people by the hour. If this "bright flight" continues, the pundits say, we're going to be left with a town full of Rocky Balboas instead of Ben Franklins. ■ We think somebody's not doing his homework. ■ If we're losing so many smart people, how do you explain the guy who whipped up a groundbreaking hepatitis B vaccine? Or the woman who thought up a new way to help the Secret Service nab bad guys? What about the 14-year-old physics prodigy? The local guy who proved the existence of God, for crying out loud? There's no nerd herd fleeing the Delaware Valley. The smart ones are here among us, working, inventing, improving, conceiving, scheming, dreaming, and teaming with ideas that will change the world. To prove it, we've gathered the 76 most revolutionary thinkers from all walks of life: cancer researchers, philosophers, cardiothoracic surgeons, museum curators, detectives, even a politician or two.

EDITED BY SARAH JORDAN ■ REPORTED BY THE STAFF OF PHILADELPHIA MAGAZINE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM GRAHAM AND BRIAN VELENCHENKO



WILLIAM FLEISHER

AGE: 57

DIRECTOR, KEYSTONE
INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

on the organized-crime beat and a U.S. Customs agent before hanging out his own shingle. Over the years, he has confronted every type of criminal mind—from petty thugs to Mafia families to a professional hit man with an IQ of 160. Perhaps his greatest strength as an investigator is his mental flexibility, which he uses to examine clues from all angles, never getting stuck in a rut. If Fleisher hits a dead end, he patiently starts from the beginning, trying a fresh perspective. He is also a prominent polygraph examiner who, as an instructor with the Academy for Scientific Investigative Training, travels the world teaching interviewing skills and lie-detector techniques. In his spare time, Fleisher heads the Vidocq Society, the prestigious association of crime-fighters dedicated to solving "cold" murder cases. Thanks to his expertise and affability, Fleisher has cultivated some of the most far-reaching contacts in the business, and serves as an unofficial hub for a network of investigators and forensic experts. No wonder, then, that when other pros find themselves stumped, they call Fleisher for advice.

■ WHAT'S THE SIMPLEST THING YOU'VE NEVER LEARNED TO DO? "Whistle loudly."

■ WHAT'S THE DUMBEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE? "I rebuilt my garbage disposal to save \$90. You cannot imagine how dumb that was."

A KEENLY LOGICAL MIND, top-notch instincts and a lifetime of law enforcement experience have all made William Fleisher one of the most astute private investigators around. This super-sleuth is a seasoned vet, having been a Philadelphia police officer, an FBI agent