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## The U.S. Intelligence Community

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The diversity of these books indicates that the PLA's modernization is not a subject easily treated in a single work. Together, however, they make a significant contribution to American understanding of the Chinese armed forces and the likely direction of their employment in the future.

MARTIN L. LASATER  
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Bittman, Ladislav, ed. *The New Image-Makers: Soviet Propaganda and Disinformation Today*. Washington D.C.: Pergamon Brassey, 1988. 262pp. \$24.95

*The New Image Makers* deals with a topic that frequently is not given the attention it merits: the Soviet Union's extensive effort to sow disinformation and influence the world's media against the United States. Mr. Bittman is no stranger to this field, having worked in this capacity for Czechoslovakian intelligence. Today he heads the Program for the Study of Disinformation at Boston University.

He brings together information from noted authorities in the field. Especially interesting are various contributors' exploration into the dilemmas and changes to the traditional Soviet approach to propaganda and the media caused by *glasnost*.

*The New Image Makers* is well worth the time it takes to read. It provides insight into an area of danger to the United States in the age of the "global

village" where, at the right moment, a distorted media picture can do greater harm to our national interests than several divisions of Soviet tanks.

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Richelson, Jeffrey T. *The U.S. Intelligence Community*, 2nd ed. Cambridge, Mass.: Ballinger, 1989. 485pp. \$16.95

This book is meticulous in detail and thoroughly documented. It is a reprise of Richelson's first edition of four years earlier. The 1985 edition, available from the same publishing house, was a landmark work in its scope and quality of research. Nevertheless the 1989 edition manages to surpass its predecessor by a significant margin.

Second editions of any book face a special test: should those who have already read the first edition invest their valuable time and money to revisit the subject? In this case, the answer is definitely yes. Anyone with more than a passing curiosity about intelligence should read *The U.S. Intelligence Community*. Those who have a special interest should own a copy, even if they already hold the first edition.

The revised edition is one-third larger, and fully half of the book is new or rewritten material providing original information. It examines the Unified and Specified commands in much greater detail than the first

edition did, expands the sections on signals intelligence and imagery, devotes more effort to "human" and "other" sources, and almost doubles the attention paid to the military service intelligence organizations. The tables of organization provided for various intelligence organizations are in themselves an impressive improvement over the first edition.

Richelson adheres rigorously to his stated purpose—to provide a comprehensive description of the "order of battle of the U.S. intelligence community." He examines the structure, relationships, operations and management architecture of the collection and analysis organizations that comprise the American intelligence establishment.

The reader will find "intelligence" defined rather liberally—even a section of the Library of Congress receives mention. But this strengthens the work because it illuminates aspects of U.S. intelligence that many authors find too mundane to notice, but which contribute to the national effort. The discussion of counterintelligence is largely presented in support of the examination of intelligence issues, and therefore also has merit within the scope of the book. However, there is little to justify Richelson's excursion into covert operations, for that subject has no bearing on the subject.

Richelson presents three very thoughtful chapters on intelligence management. In relation to the previous chapters this section may

seem tedious, but the subject is important and worth the effort.

The final chapter refers to significant issues facing the intelligence community. It is thought-provoking without resorting to cheap sensationalism. The evolution of the role of the Director of Central Intelligence is examined in some depth, as is the structure of the community as a whole. A sharp appreciation of human nature is shown in the author's observations of both these areas. He is critical of U.S. covert operations (by now obligatory). But at least he deserves credit for achieving some degree of innovation and plausibility.

One of the most refreshing things about Richelson is that, unlike some self-styled "investigative journalists," he doesn't carry any ideological baggage into his book. *The U.S. Intelligence Community* isn't an uneven collection of hyperbole and innuendo which was written only as a vehicle to carry a harping "blame America first" theme. Rather, it is what it purports to be—an examination of the goals, organizations and mechanics of the U.S. intelligence community.

But like all works that examine this subject in-depth, Richelson's book is based on facts, which are not only *unknown* to the reader, but which are also very difficult to *verify*. However, the author has exhaustively researched his subject using declassified sources and the book is meticulously documented with informative footnotes conveniently placed at the end of each chapter. Nevertheless, the reader is

left to independently judge the accuracy of *The U.S. Intelligence Community*.

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Naval War College

O'Toole, George J. A. *The Encyclopedia of American Intelligence and Espionage: From the Revolutionary War to the Present*. New York: Facts on File, 1988. 539pp. \$50

Kurland, Michael. *The Spymaster's Handbook*. New York: Facts On File, 1988. 177pp. \$18.95

There have been handbooks of sorts on this subject at least as early as British author Ronald Seth's *Encyclopedia of Espionage*, published in 1972. Therefore, the two titles here no longer tread a pristine path.

Mr. Kurland is a former intelligence officer and prolific detective-fiction author. His small volume reflects that flippant attitude toward his subject that characterizes the Becket title which some readers may deem inappropriate. The approach is topical, beginning in Shakespeare's time, focussing mainly on Great Britain and Western Europe. The author's intent is to prod the reader into assessing his ability to function as the "Spymaster General" of the nation of "Freedonia," with a "Self-Test for Spies" that determines that ability with some sophistication.

The book offers a lengthy glossary, a good index, and lavish use of illustrations that are mostly cartoons

and film posters. The bibliography, however, is shamefully weak. Worst of all, the footnotes are not annotated. In sum, here is a frolicsome skimming of the field.

You will not find this attitude from Mr. O'Toole, a former CIA branch chief and author of a history of the Spanish-American War. His approach is alphabetical, running from "A-Z" through "Zimmerman Telegram" and is, within its stated limits, about as exhaustive a study as one could wish. There is a list of abbreviations, and both bibliography and index are admirably inclusive. Mr. O'Toole is as lavish with illustrations (many from his own collection) as is Mr. Kurland, but finds no space for cartoons or cinema posters.

The entries offer succinct sketches of little-known intelligence personalities, and the more significant ones are given the royal treatment, such as "John Andre" or "Franz von Rintelen." His approach to such commanding topics as our Civil War or State Department Intelligence or Office of Strategic Services is magisterial. I was gratified to note that room had been found for my own little outfit, the X-2 section.

Over the years professional exploiters of this volume will inevitably encounter errors or omissions of greater or lesser magnitude. For example, the Army CIC Center is no longer at Fort Holabird in Maryland, and the author's sketch of W. Somerset Maugham might have cited his interview with the terrorist,