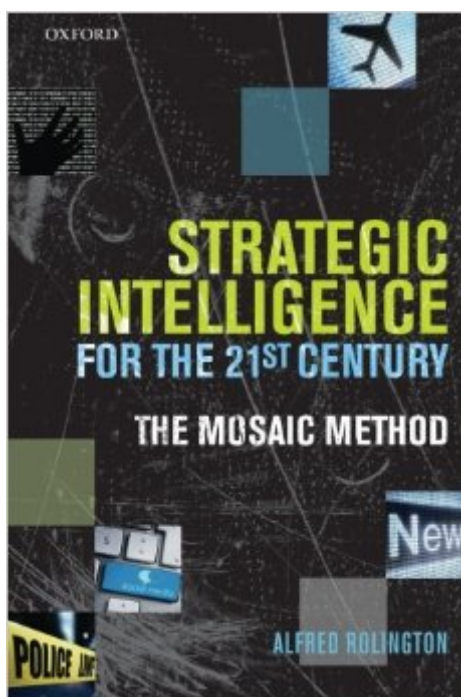


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Strategic Intelligence For The 21st Century: The Mosaic Method



Synopsis

Strategic Intelligence for the 21st Century: The Mosaic Method provides an industry insider's assessment of current intelligence methods and offers a new strategic model, directed toward the police, military, and intelligence agencies. The birth of the internet, the advent of 24 hour news and the rise of social media is evidence of how governments and those dealing in intelligence commodities struggle not only to access but also to limit the information that is out there. At the same time, recent terrorist atrocities, such as 9/11 and the July 7th bombings in London, have highlighted the need for intelligence cooperation on a global scale - but how can this be achieved? Serving as a call to break from traditional models and forge more deeply and continuously inter-linked relationships, Strategic Intelligence for the 21st Century advocates more fluid, networked operating methods, incorporating far more open-sourced information and data in analysis. Featuring contributions from key figures in the industry, including Sir Colin McColl, R. James Woolsey, and Sir David Phillips, this book presents a history of intelligence developments alongside the current challenges, analysing the impact on society - both from within and due to propaganda and covert action - and the influence wrought by technological innovations. With discussion of the Deep Web, the post-9/11 era, and the resulting impact on civil liberty and police operations, Strategic Intelligence for the 21st Century offers a revolutionary new approach to intelligence analysis and global collaborations.

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Customer Reviews

I have been holding a gift copy of this book for over a month, waiting for it to be available on so I

could load my review, and as a result have also read -- and also recommend as an essential book -- Sir David Omand's book *Securing the State*. I am rating both books at 5, both books are as erudite and perceptive as it gets. Alfred Rolington can reasonably be considered "P" or the Public counterpart to "M" in the UK, as I have been to the secret world in the US. He is the master of BOTH the secret process of intelligence and its purposes, AND the very broad multi-lingual multi-cultural world of open sources in unpublished, analog, and digital form that the secret world is -- to be blunt -- arrogantly ignorant of. This book is one of a handful truly relevant to the future of intelligence (decision-support) done properly -- which is to say, as decision-support for ALL threats and challenges, not as surveillance secrets protecting the few. This book by Alfred Rolington, former CEO of Janes and someone I have known for over fifteen years -- and whom I will testify has been the single most accomplished and imaginative speaker in my conference on international intelligence from 1992-2006, among over 750 speakers -- is the better book for students and I strongly recommend it as required reading at the university level.

There are many books available that present an overview of current approaches to intelligence analysis and the intelligence cycle. However, what is missing is a detailed analysis of how to modernize these current approaches to handle a much different global landscape that is rapidly evolving due to, among many factors, technological advancement. Fortunately, *Strategic Intelligence for the 21st Century* by Alfred Rolington presents a much needed forward-looking understanding on the future of strategic intelligence. This includes how to improve today's analytical methods to address tomorrow's challenges. This book persuasively articulates how current intelligence functions and structures, including analytical methods and practices, require re-tooling to handle tomorrow's challenges. Challenges that are being led by exogenous technological and social changes that the information revolution is producing on a global scale. This book - which includes a foreword by James Woolsey, the former Director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency - is structured into three parts. The first part presents today's methods and practices, which are a product of yesterday's global landscape. The second part discusses the many changes taking place, the driving forces behind these changes, and the unrealized potential of how much information is truly now available (the deep web). The third part dissects the traditional intelligence model in greater depth, including its application in businesses and law enforcement settings. Additionally, the third part is essential as it provides a new methodology to handle the challenges discussed throughout the book.

This book provides a wide-ranging overview of the history and current state of intelligence - mostly secret intelligence, but also business intelligence - and ends with a provocative argument on how intelligence ought to be reformed. The book is in three parts. The first part covers intelligence-related definitions and background, including the intelligence cycle, intelligence sources, and the history of intelligence. This could have done with some reorganization (perhaps chronologically?) but the book aims to address topics useful for the reader's understanding of the field of intelligence studies widely rather than deeply so it is not hard to follow. The second part is a briefing on some current issues facing the modern intelligence practitioner, including propaganda, conspiracies, economic globalization, the internet, and culture (especially cultural bias). Again, the treatment of topics is quick and wide-ranging. The third and final part of the book sets out proposals for intelligence reform (after a short review of some more background, e.g. on intelligence supervision and business intelligence). These reform proposals are radical, seeking to address the challenges of the information age. Mainly, the 'mosaic method' capitalizes on information technologies in order to integrate the exploding range of open-source information with the secret intelligence that is the traditional focus of intelligence agencies.

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