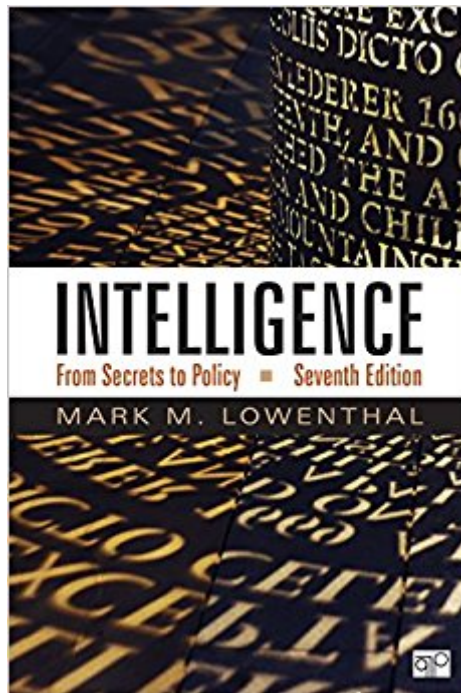


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Intelligence: From Secrets To Policy



Synopsis

Mark M. Lowenthal's trusted guide is the go-to resource for understanding how the intelligence community's history, structure, procedures, and functions affect policy decisions. In this Seventh Edition, Lowenthal examines cyber space and the issues it presents to the intelligence community such as defining cyber as a new collection discipline; the implications of the Senate Intelligence Committee's staff report on enhanced interrogation techniques; the rise of the Islamic State; and the issues surrounding the nuclear agreement with Iran. New sections have been added offering a brief summary of the major laws governing U.S. intelligence today such as domestic intelligence collection, whistleblowers vs. leakers, and the growing field of financial intelligence.

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Customer Reviews

Just what I needed for my class. This book is an in-depth look at Intelligence and how the system should work for gathering it and it's use

Mark Lowenthal has covered the whole gambit of what US intelligence consists of. It also discusses a number of disciplines that are usually not known about or discussed openly, including friendly and adversary intelligence organizations.

Brilliant

i like those books

With a Ph.D. in History from Harvard and 41 years of experience (including the highest analytical levels) in the US Intelligence Community, Mark Lowenthal provides a unique overview of the US Intelligence Community and its relationship with Policymakers. The book which is excellently organized and documented serves two principle purposes: 1. Discussing and Specifying the relationship and Cycle of Feedback between Policymakers and Intelligence Collection and Analysis; 2. Providing a well documented and organized textbook for those studying intelligence whose background may be more focused on other functions of government and history. Two particular facets of this edition are salient in addition to the qualities which have made it a standard reference in the field for six prior editions. vignettes and citations of recent events which were well or poorly handled by the Intelligence Community provide a frame of reference for examining current issues facing the Intelligence Community and its relationship with US Policy. A brief but well organized and up-to-date summary of the organization and current concerns of Allied and Opposing Intelligence Communities are presented and documented. Finally a current and extensive list of citations with Web URL's is given at the end of this edition.

This is the seventh edition of a well regarded academic survey and introductory text on the US intelligence community. Professor Lowenthal is well organized and writes accessibly, teasing apart the complex relationships between the agencies and each other as well as with the other agencies of government. It is not a trivial task to explain and utilize the jargon and acronyms of the community but Lowenthal handles this well. The purpose of the book is to define the role intelligence has in making national security policy, emphasizing the processes undertaken by the various agencies. The information is detailed and, indeed, it is sometimes the comparison between agencies in this regard that is quite informative. The book begins with a 6-page list of acronyms, and in various chapters The author details the history of the agencies and their mission(s), organization and

leadership. Chapters include: What is "Intelligence"?; The Development of US Intelligence; The US Intelligence Community; The Intelligence Process .. Who Does What for Whom; Collection and the Collection Discipline; Analysis; Counterintelligence; Covert Action; The Role of the Policy Maker; Oversight and Accountability; The Intelligence Agenda; Ethical and Moral Issues in Intelligence; Intelligence Reform; and Foreign Intelligence. The book concludes with useful appendices (a topical bibliography and a list of major intelligence reviews or proposals), an author index and a decent, if not comprehensive, subject index. Comparative tables are given, and figures -- perhaps none more illustrative than the organizational table! The first edition of "Intelligence" was written in 2000, so the second necessarily needed to incorporate issues from the multipronged attack of Sept. 11, 2001; the third edition added the topics of WMD in Iraq and the creation of the position of Director of National Intelligence, or DNI. Each subsequent edition has incorporated meaningful information, including the war on terrorism, the politicization of intelligence, cyberintelligence and leaks. The seventh edition enhances the discussion of cyberintelligence and adds information about the Senate Intelligence Report on enhanced interrogation techniques (torture), ISIL and the Iran nuclear agreement. The author has also added sections on laws that affect intelligence, domestic intelligence collection, whistleblowers and financial intel. In addition there is a revision of the bibliographies and the chapter on foreign intelligence. This is a well written and thorough survey of a complex and essential topic.

Mark Lowenthal, a long-time veteran of the Intelligence Community, is the author of "Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy," a superb introduction into the American Intelligence Community, its long transition from the Cold War against the Soviets to the current battles against rogue states and transnational terrorists, and the sensitivities of intelligence practices in a democracy with 24-hour media coverage. Lowenthal writes at the survey level for an audience with a general understanding of American history and governmental processes but limited knowledge of how intelligence fits into either. In sequential steps, Lowenthal explains what intelligence is supposed to be, how U.S. intelligence developed, and how the Intelligence Community operates. He reviews the intelligence process, the major collection disciplines, and the moving parts of functions such as analysis, counterintelligence, and covert action. The last chapters explore the difficult issues of interaction with policy-makers, oversight, and transformation. Lowenthal's narrative is remarkable on at least two counts. He appreciates just how challenging it is to produce timely, accurate, and useful intelligence, and he is exceptionally even-handed in describing all the things that can go right or wrong in the process. While no one aspect of intelligence is covered in significant depth, his coverage of the whole topic is exceptionally solid and well suited to entry-level classes on

intelligence and its interaction with policy. This seventh edition, published in 2017, contains a very up-to-date selection of anecdotes and discussion points that help add depth and interest to what might otherwise be a dry academic narrative. The reader need not agree with the author's take on every recent controversy to appreciate the helpful approach to the topic."Intelligence: From Secrets To Policy" is very highly recommended as an introduction to the intelligence business for use at the collegiate level and for the interested general reader.

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