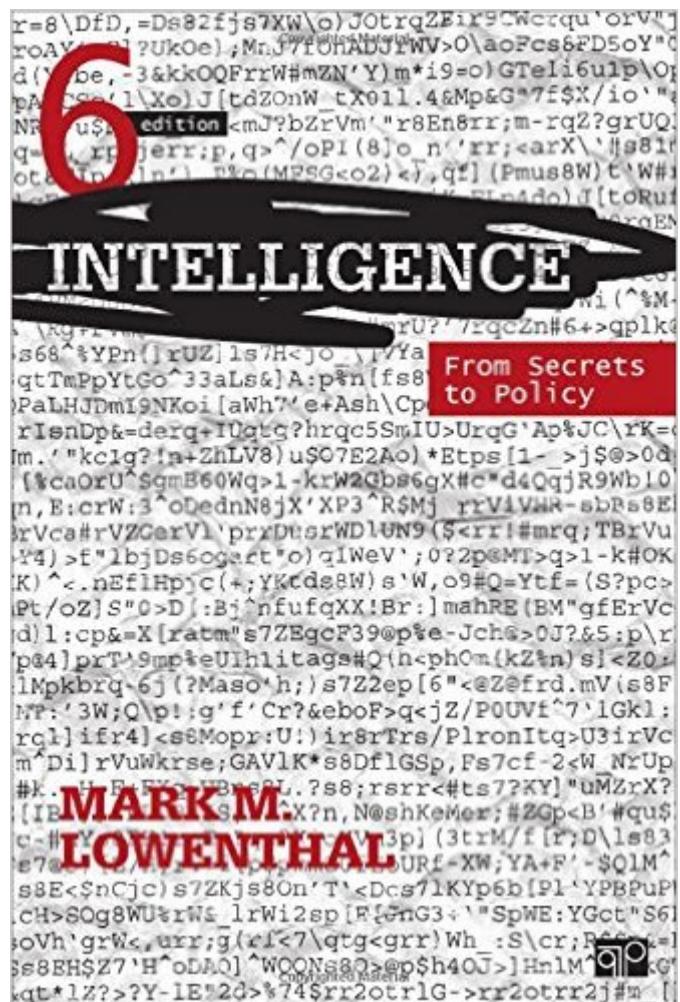


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Intelligence; From Secrets To Policy

6 Ed



Synopsis

Mark Lowenthal's trusted guide has become the go-to resource for understanding how the intelligence community's history, structure, procedures, and functions affect policy decisions

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This valuable and recent contribution to the intelligence bookshelf promises to become a classic text for any practitioner and student of intelligence. Understanding how the intelligence process can work efficiently, how consumers of intelligence can best utilize the process, and how essential it is for producers of intelligence to receive feedback by consumers (a critical and often lacking element), are among some of the major themes discussed. Perhaps one of the most valuable sections of the book is the chapter on the analysis process itself, considered to be the most difficult process in the intelligence cycle. The author clearly provides the reader with exceptional comments regarding analyst training, politicized intelligence, and mirror imaging, and offers many unique insights into the process itself. *Intelligence: From Secrets To Policy*, contains well developed chapters on Counterintelligence, Covert Action, and Ethical and Moral Issues. Mr. Lowenthal also provides the reader with unique appendices that include excerpts from the National Security Act, Executive Order 12333, and a listing of intelligence related web sites. Comprehensive and yet easy to understand, this publication is highly recommended for those of us wishing to examine, or reexamine, the crucial roles of consumer, producer, and analyst, and the ever-increasing importance of feedback in the intelligence cycle.

Mark's latest book is a well-written, accurate depiction of the US intelligence business and various areas of intelligence tradecraft. His section on the US intelligence community will become outdated in time, but in it he develops an interesting functional view of the community. The book is very readable for newcomers while still being of interest to veterans of the business. It is intended to have broad coverage rather than depth. It would be admirably suited as a textbook for a short course on intelligence.

This is the book we use at Mercyhurst College to train both undergraduates and graduates in preparation for future work as an intelligence analysts. Highly recommended. The only college granting a degree in intelligence thinks you should read it. So do I.

Mark does it again. He hit a home run with this updated version of his 1992 work. Once again Mark puts a very difficult and most classified subject and turns it into a straight forward, easy to read and to understand volume. This will be the new text book for the graduate and undergraduate students at the Joint Military Intelligence College in the subject of Intelligence Community and will aid in the understanding of the Intelligence arm of the National Security Structure and Process. Well done, Mark!

If you are looking for a text on intelligence this one has become a standard. The stated theme of the book is, "intelligence serves and is subservient to policy and that it works best - analytically and operationally - when tied to clearly understood policy goals" (p. xiii). This book is not a universal book on intelligence as a discipline, it is US centric. It is not a how to book but will leave the reader with a firm grasp of the value intelligence plays in national security policy. This is the 6th edition and as such does use some more recent examples. I am teaching a graduate level course on Intelligence and this book has served the students quite well. Highly recommended.

Very informative and interesting--almost as interesting as the fact that Mark Lowenthal is a "Jeopardy!" winner. Mark's expertise and knowledge is most valuable when dealing in the Intelligence Community and for general learning.

This book was published missing pages 361-408, portions of two different chapters. Otherwise, the book was fascinating, well written and insightful.

Mark Lowenthal knows the intelligence community and the process of producing intelligence. His works are recommended reading and occupy shelf space throughout the government. My only caution is to take the review written by Mr. Steele with a grain of salt. Mr. Steele is the CEO of Open Source Solutions, the same company that Lowenthal is the COO for. Can you say conflict of interest?

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