



GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF INTELLIGENCE

Staying Informed

Information Sources on the Web

Intelligence Bibliographies, Newsletters, Blogs, and Webliographies

by Peter C. Oleson

For those educators and interested parties who try to keep up with the world of intelligence the flood of information can be daunting. Newspaper articles, new books, scholarly journals, and web blogs that address intelligence are numerous. Many are politically motivated, none is comprehensive. Unclassified sources lack much of the primary material. Classified sources, unless leaked, are not available. Nevertheless, the following are useful resources, presented in alphabetical order.

AFCEA International (Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association) publishes *Signal* magazine monthly, which contains numerous intelligence-related articles and news. Via its website AFCEA also publishes webinars and white papers related to intelligence, <https://www.afcea.org/site/>. AFCEA also has a monthly intelligence-related blog, the MAZZINT Blog.

Air University has an excellent compilation of intelligence-related materials with many links to articles and relevant websites at its "Gateway to Intelligence." <http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/awc-ntel.htm>.

The **American Enterprise Institute's** Critical Threats project tracks and provides analysis of key and emerging threats to national security. <https://www.criticalthreats.org/>.

The **Association of Former Intelligence Officers** (AFIO) is an education-oriented national association and has two major recurring publications. The *Weekly Intelligence Notes* (WINs), available to current members, provides synopses and links to major intelligence-related news stories. The WINs also have a comprehensive calendar of intelligence-related events, including for the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC. AFIO's print-only 144-page journal, *Intelligencer*, carries articles, opinion pieces, book reviews, and association news. It

is published three times a year. An *Intelligence as a Career* booklet is distributed at no cost in the tens of thousands and available for download as a PDF on AFIO's website which also contains a plethora of information and links to official government websites. Articles for AFIO's *Guide to the Study of Intelligence*, aimed at educators, appear on the website as well (<https://www.afio.com>). AFIO is non-partisan. Most of its members are former intelligence officers.

The Central Intelligence Agency's **Center for the Study of Intelligence** contains rich resources for educators including Agency-related news, reports, a FOIA electronic reading room, topical papers from CIA University's Kent School, and a selected bibliography of books. Unclassified articles from its in-house magazine, *Studies in Intelligence*, are published on its website. <https://www.cia.gov> and <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence>.

The **CiCentre** is a private counterintelligence training firm that maintains a comprehensive database on international espionage cases, terrorism and cyber security incidents, and other related counterintelligence events. Its online database, *Spypedia*, is available via subscription. <http://www.cicentre.com>.

Both the **US House** and **Senate** intelligence committees maintain informative websites. The House site is <https://intelligence.house.gov/>. The Senate site is <https://www.intelligence.senate.gov/>. Both sites now include archival as well as current materials.

The **Council on Foreign Relations** publishes *Foreign Affairs* magazine and includes analytical articles on its website. <https://www.foreignaffairs.com>.

The **Defense Intelligence Alumni Association** (DIAA) provides subscribed members with the *Early Bird*, the Department of Defense's daily summary of news. Founded in 1998, membership is limited to those who have served in the Defense Intelligence Agency. <http://www.diaalumni.org/>.

The **Federation of American Scientists** (FAS) is a national organization. It publishes a free electronic blog, *Secrecy News*, (<https://fas.org/blogs/secrecy/>) that often addresses intelligence and related issues. *Secrecy News* is archived at <https://www.fas.org/sgp/news/secrecy/index.html>. FAS maintains an extensive electronic library on national security related topics, including intelligence (<https://www.fas.org>) and many research reports from the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS) that are not readily available to the public.

Foreign Policy magazine provides excellent daily analysis of world events. Subscription required. <https://foreignpolicy.com>.

H-Net Network on Intelligence History and Studies is a donation-supported web service that covers intelligence items of historical significance. Members receive three to five e-mails per week on intelligence history related topics. The network also provides a forum for historians to query one another and collaborate online. Hnet@h-net.msu.edu.

The **Intelligence and National Security Alliance** (INSA) was established as the Security Affairs Support Association

(SASA) in 1979 to bring together professionals in the intelligence field, primarily employees of the National Security Agency; and to help members keep abreast of intelligence and national security community issues and facilitate cooperation, information sharing, and innovation within the Intelligence Community. INSA provides its members with periodic e-mails on current events and working group white papers on current issues of intelligence and industry interest. <https://www.insaonline.org>.

IntelNews.org is a daily email of items related to intelligence. It is valuable for its coverage of intelligence issues worldwide. <https://intelnews.org>.

International Association for Intelligence Education (IAFIE). An international networking organization for university educators teaching about intelligence, IAFIE has a ListServ via which members can discuss various topics. Its website lists both government and private sector intelligence-related journals. <http://www.iafie.org>.

Lawfare is a blog published by the Lawfare Institute in cooperation with the Brookings Institution. It covers many issues related to national security and intelligence. <https://www.lawfareblog.com/>. A more liberal point of view comes from **Just Security**. <https://www.justsecurity.org/>.

Loyola University Maryland's Department of Political Science maintains the **Loyola Homepage on Strategic Intelligence**, which provides links to many web sites, journals, articles, documents, laws, and congressional hearing transcripts related to intelligence. <https://www.loyola.edu/departments/academics/political-science/strategic-intelligence/index.html>.

Mercyhurst University's Professor Kristan Wheaton maintains a blog site, *Sources and Methods* at <http://sourcesandmethods.blogspot.com/>. One posting addresses "What Should You be Reading!" <http://sourcesandmethods.blogspot.com/2015/03/what-you-should-be-reading-blog-list.html>.

The **Military Intelligence Corps Association** has published *The Vanguard* magazine for its members since 2005. *The Vanguard* contains historical and other articles on military intelligence. Its archived articles are available at <http://mica-national.org/membership/vanguard-access/>.

One of the most useful and comprehensive bibliographies of intelligence related books and articles was begun in 1998 by Professor J. Ransom Clark at **Muskingum College**, New Concord, Ohio. The *Literature of Intelligence: A Bibliography of Materials with Essays, Review, and Comments* is a free resource. <http://intellit.org/maintoc.html>.

The **Director of National Intelligence** website (<https://www.dni.gov/index.php>) provides extensive information on the Intelligence Community, including reports, transcripts of speeches by senior officials, interviews, testimony before Congress, and links to all Intelligence Community organizations' home pages.

The **National Military Intelligence Association (NMIA)**, founded in 1974, publishes online-only the *American Intelligence Journal* every year or two. It contains articles on military and national intelligence topics. Membership in NMIA also enables members to receive a thrice-weekly

news summary, *ZGram*, that covers national security and intelligence related news reports from around the world. *CableGram* is another e-mail summary which covers foreign and domestic homeland security matters. <https://www.nmia.org>.

George Washington University's **National Security Archive** was founded in 1985 by journalists and scholars to check rising government secrecy and expand public access to government information. It is an advocate of open government and indexer and publisher of former secrets. Its research institute maintains an extensive archive of declassified US documents. Its *Digital National Security Archive* contains well-indexed collections on major national security topics including intelligence. <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/>.

The **National Security Institute** in Medway, Massachusetts, produces a complimentary weekly e-newsletter, *Security NewsWatch*. It addresses security threats including cyber threats. To subscribe, visit <https://www.nsi.org/newsletter.html>. NSI provides a variety of professional information and security awareness services to defense contractors and US Government security practitioners.

Naval Intelligence Professionals (NIP) was founded in 1985 for present and former Naval intelligence professionals to stay informed of developments in the Naval intelligence community and of the activities and whereabouts of past shipmates. It publishes an online quarterly journal with articles and news about naval intelligence personnel. <https://www.navintpro.org/>.

NightWatch is a daily analysis of hot spots and crises around the world. Written by a former senior intelligence analyst, it is particularly valuable for coverage of events on the Korean peninsula and Africa. By subscription. KGSNightWatch@kgsnightwatch.com.

The **Strategic and Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP)** is a business intelligence-oriented association (formerly known as the Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals). Its *Competitive Intelligence™* magazine is published four times a year. <http://www.scip.org>.

StratFor is a subscription private intelligence service that alerts its subscribers to terror events and other international happenings. It also provides analysis of incipient situations that could pose a national security problem. <https://www.stratfor.com>.

Since March 2012, the **University of Maryland University College** library has compiled a weekly e-newsletter on cyber security issues and cyber incidents. It provides links to the full articles from many sources. Some links are restricted to university-affiliated personnel due to copyright agreements. Issues are available at <https://cybersecurityupdate.wordpress.com/>.

WIRED magazine includes a section entitled "Threat Level," which addresses issues of privacy, online crime, and security. <https://www.wired.com/category/security/>.

Many of the association-related journals include book reviews, as do some subscription journals. The best sources for book reviews include CIA's *Studies in Intelligence*, AFIO's *Intelligencer*, NMIA's *American Intelligence Journal*, *Intelligence and National Security*, and the

International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence, the latter two published by Taylor and Francis Group, an international academic publisher.

The original 2013 draft of this article was crowd-sourced for additional recommendations.¹ Thanks are due to Dr. Robert Clark, Joseph Fitsanakis, Kristan Wheaton, Joe Mazzafro, and Steven Aftergood for many valuable additions. Due to the dynamic nature of information sources in today's world, readers need to be alert for new sources, but also careful as many sources have a specific political motivation, which should be understood.

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1. Links to the sources were verified and updated on 3 November 2017.

“Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will preserve it but downright force. Whenever you give up that force, you are inevitably ruined.”

—Patrick Henry (1778)

‘Hear now this, O foolish people,
and without understanding;
which have eyes, and see not;
which have ears, and hear not’

—Jeremiah 5:21

There are none so blind as those who
will not see.
The most deluded people are those
who choose to ignore what they already
know.

—Jonathan Swift
in ‘Polite Conversation’ 1713