

*Recent literature on that 20th-Century
phenomenon, the espionage industry*

Cloak, Dust Jacket, and Dagger

CPYRGHT

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ESPIONAGE ENJOYS a reputation for seeking a subterranean profile in terms of visibility. Yet spying has spiked to Everest-like peaks of public awareness on numerous occasions over the past decade. From the U-2 downing in the Soviet Union in 1960 through the wholesale removal of the heavily manned Soviet trade delegation in London last year, the world has seen briefly but repeatedly into the shadowy world of international espionage. Meanwhile, James Bond and a dozen poor carbon copies papered the bookshelves with mock serious revelations which gave credulity to the last espionage headline and prepared us for the next. And a surprisingly extensive literature presents a detailed view of world espionage establishments that lacks only a bit of violence and much sex in matching Fleming's imaginative schemes.

With these factors, the moral stigma implied in the comment attributed to former Secretary of State Henry Stimson, "Gentlemen do not read each other's mail," has lost force. It is, perhaps, no longer a world of gentlemen in which we live.

Domestically, we have discovered to our dismay that our intelligence apparatus is turned on ourselves. With federal

agents monitoring the borrowing lists of public libraries and the military infiltrating national political campaigns, we are ourselves using techniques long associated with the "other side."

Some accounts have estimated that millions of Americans have been subject to surveillance or investigation as possible threats to national security. Such disturbingly extensive violation of privacy may itself seem as much of a threat to our sense of personal security as the activities of those investigated. The troubles which face the nation today from political, racial, and ethnic fringe groups would loom far larger if they were the work of millions of hard core anti-Americans. Reason and experience make clear that the numbers are much smaller and the recent extent of surveillance unnecessary.

Although the case for privacy of the individual seems clear, there is a similar case which must be made for the right to privacy for the national government. The leaking of nuclear secrets to the Russians during World War II and the recent front page flaunting of the minutes of the National Security Council are instances of the abridgement of governmental privacy which work to the disadvantage of the

American people. It is questionable which of the two instances represents the greatest long-term damage. The Russians might well have developed their atomic bomb from the work of their own and captured German scientists. But our ability to assure other national leaders of the confidentiality of their remarks remains, for the time being, much more uncertain.

The abuse of government's mechanism of privacy—the security classification of information—presents a problem, although an effort is now being made to severely reduce the number of individuals authorized to apply security classifications. Additional funding is being requested from Congress to speed the declassification of much material, some of which dates back to World War II.

The sanctity of a librarian's records and a bureaucrat's rubber stamp are hardly so glamorous as James Bond skin diving in the Caribbean in search of a missing atomic weapon. Nevertheless, the prosaic comes much closer to the real issues—and operations—of intelligence work as they touch the average citizen.

Pieces of the Puzzle

Espionage, as befits the "second oldest profession," has evolved a multifaceted structure which shows considerable similarity in nations around the globe.

Espionage is frequently used to refer to everything associated with the global traffic in national secrets. The strict definition of the word restricts it to the use of spies or agents to obtain and transmit information. This phase is only a small part of the overall process which requires validation, interpretation, and integration of the information before it becomes useful. The spy himself is faced with a problem common to other sectors of manpower: the threat of displacement through technology and automation. Thus, it seems entirely improper to name the entire process after a small and decreasingly important portion of the whole. The term of preference is intelligence, or, more properly, intelligence operations. Not only is the term more comprehensive; it is free from the nasty implications of "espionage."

The 1955 Hoover Commission Task Force report on *Intelligence Activities* (GPO, 1955) contained two definitions. The first:

Intelligence deals with all the things which should be known in advance of initiating a course of action.

P - Tully, Andrew

P - Wise, David

BA I.D. Dullas, Allen

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