

**OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE
A FRESH LOOK AT THE PAST AND THE FUTURE**

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**For remarks at the Open Source Solutions Conference
15-17 May 2000
Washington DC**

US intelligence has been more open about sources, methods, analysis, and presentation than any major service or tradition in history.

But US intelligence was created and matured primarily to manage conflict with a very closed and secretive, very dangerous, and morally repugnant system. It was enormously creative and successful in dealing with this challenge.

This legacy created contradictions, paradoxes, and obstacles to mastering the information revolution.

Importing techniques and technologies for mastering open source exploitation is comparatively easy. Overcoming cultural and institutional obstacles is much harder.

We need to “zero base” some concepts about our structures, traditions, and cultures. A look at the “constitutional principles” of US intelligence.

Should government look to official or private providers of open source intelligence?

Implications for security and classification: What makes information secret: origin, method of derivation, impact, ownership? Do open societies in a more open world need better security?

Strategic implications of comparative advantage: What happens when non-governmental (and non-national) entities become better at intelligence than government?

OSS 21 PRIMER Essential Elements of Information Joint Planning, Operations Other Than War and Open Source Intelligence - Link Page

[Previous](#) [OPEN SOURCES AND INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS](#)

[Next](#) [An Alternative View On The Future Of Intelligence](#)

[Return to Electronic Index Page](#)