

Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

Abstract

Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying. By James M. Olson.

The Corporate Spy: Industrial Espionage and Counterintelligence in the Multinational Enterprise with Case Studies (Abridged Version) by Edward M. Roche.

Book Reviews

Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying. By James M. Olson. Dulles, VA. Potomac Books, Inc. 2006. ISBN: 1-57488-949-4. Bibliographic Reference, Endnotes and Index. Pp. xi, 291. \$28.95.

Reviewed by Bart Bechtel

It was no surprise to me that James (Jim) Olson wrote *Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying*. During his 30-plus years' tenure at the CIA, he never backed away from addressing difficult or contentious issues. During his storied career as an Operations and Counterintelligence Officer, like all conscientious officers, Jim Olson wrestled with ethical and moral alligators regularly. To do otherwise is not his nature. *Fair Play* makes a much-needed contribution to the intelligence profession by illustrating many of the questions found in what many in society consider an oxymoron—intelligence ethics. I know Jim Olson as fellow (albeit senior) Operations and Counterintelligence Officer and now fellow educator. Though I never worked directly with or for him, it was easy to like and respect Jim for his dedication, professionalism, and judgment. He was the type of officer for whom others wanted to work. Having followed not too distantly on the famed "*road less traveled*" Jim remains an inspirational mentor through his deeds and teaching.

Some readers will find Mr. Olson's book enlightening. Others may be disappointed that it does not contain resolutions to the dilemmas, presented as fifty hypothetical scenarios and offered up to an array of commentators who were asked to answer the question, "Would it be moral if...?" In answer to the question, commentators were to give a 'yes' or 'no' answer, along with their reasoning. At the end of each scenario, the author provides his comments. Resolving the dilemmas was not the purpose of *Fair Play*. Rather, it was to illuminate the dilemmas faced by intelligence officers in real life. Readers will need to find their own resolutions.

Critics may complain that Mr. Olson should have selected commentators from a larger cross-section of professions and society. However, I found those chosen to sufficiently demonstrate a broad spectrum of opinions on each question. I would challenge those critics to present their own sets of dilemmas and commentators from arenas they feel should have been

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included. One will see rapidly while reading the scenarios and responses that there may never be any one answer. While many consider ethics and morality to be the dictates of society, one eventually learns that it becomes individual and influenced by time and circumstance. Would Mr. Olson's respondents have answered differently before September 11, 2001 or during World War II?

Readers will appreciate Mr. Olson's far too brief and modest sketch of his career and service, shared by his supportive wife Meredith. This summary is nevertheless enhanced with the *Notes* toward the end of the book.

Beyond the primary subject matter, *Fair Play* offers Mr. Olson's annotated list of intelligence books he would want if he were starting his career all over today. Some practitioners and students of intelligence may differ with Mr. Olson's choices, but the nonprofessional will definitely have a launching pad for their education.

About the Reviewer

Bart Bechtel is a veteran CIA officer with over twenty years of experience. He teaches courses in surveillance, counter surveillance, counterintelligence, professional ethics and threat assessment. Mr. Bechtel served as a clandestine operations/counterintelligence officer on deep cover assignments. He is a threat/vulnerability assessor, counterterrorism & surveillance detection instructor. Mr. Bechtel has broad experience in conducting analytical antiterrorism assessments using quantitative methodologies for calculating vulnerabilities and risk associated with terrorist and criminal threats. Mr. Bechtel has taught extensively. He was a lead instructor for the US State Department's anti-terrorism Surveillance Detection (SD) Team Training Program under contract with SAIC. He trained SD teams in Croatia, Bosnia, Albania, Macedonia, and Mexico. Previously, Mr. Bechtel was a primary instructor in Terrorist/Criminal Threat Recognition, Observation Skills and Surveillance Detection for the Washoe County, Nevada Sheriff's Citizen Homeland Security Council. He is also a member of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers. Mr. Bechtel received his BA in History from Monterey Institute of International Studies in 1972 and a MS in Intelligence Management from Henley-Putnam University. He is also a licensed private investigator in Florida and is the Director of Operations and Training for CTC International Group Ltd of West Palm Beach, FL.

The Corporate Spy: Industrial Espionage and Counterintelligence in the Multinational Enterprise with Case Studies (Abridged Version) by Edward M. Roche. New York: Barraclough, Ltd. 2007. ISBN 978-0-615-20608-0. Charts. Photographs. Glossary. Notes. Sources cited. Index. 413 pages. \$53.95.

Reviewed by Jeffrey Ahn

Not a single day goes by that we don't hear something about the issue of homeland security. It is obvious we are serious about protecting our lives and properties, especially since the 9-11 attack. When asked by students about the "best" book on homeland security, it is extremely difficult to locate just "one" from a plethora of homeland security-related materials. As an example, Edward Roche's book, *The Corporate Spy*, highlights the specialized topic of industrial espionage. Roche is the Director of Scientific Intelligence at Barraclough Ltd., New York. He was educated at The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and Columbia University in the City of New York. He is a member of the Intelligence and National Security Alliance (INSA), a member of the Association for Intelligence Officers (AFIO) and InfraGard. He maintains an Intelink Intellipedia page on Economic Espionage. Roche has consulted as an expert adviser to the United Nations Mission to Kenya, and to numerous multinational corporations. He served as primary investigator for the ODNI Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA) in a forecasting study on the application of virtual worlds to next generation intelligence analysis and teaches courses at Henley-Putnam University.

Roche suggests solutions to combat industrial espionage via detection and identification of perpetrators, which is the main focus in his book. He illustrates many examples of detection and identification methods, such as Richard Heuer's approach in analysis. Furthermore, he asserts that lessons learned from classical government espionage and security breach cases can be adapted to protect many different types of entities. He supports his assertions—within legal bounds governing the use of collected data and publicly available information—by presenting case studies of Richard Sorge, Chi Mak, Coca-Cola, Ferrari, Hewlett-Packard, and others. Only a few of the cases are well known, and it would have been helpful if more of them had been explained more in detail.

Roche candidly confesses challenges in researching the intelligence community for corporate and state espionage with scanty materials. He tries to provide readers with analyzed information to convince them of the significance and necessity for survival in our highly-competitive global busi-

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ness world. Abundance of previous cases and in-depth analysis of methods and results identified in each business spy case place his work squarely in the business intelligence category. The book is an excellent source with three distinct purposes. First, it provides general readers with intuitive awareness in industrial espionage. Second, it supplies introductory pedagogic materials for students in intelligence, counterintelligence, and protection fields. Lastly, some obvious typographical and punctuation errors notwithstanding, portions of the historical research materials the author uses throughout the book can easily be turned into training materials for entities wanting to train employees on how to defend themselves from adversaries. The structure and organization of the book makes it very suitable as a textbook for college courses and security professionals, but the lack of narrative form may limit its attractiveness for other readers, particularly business or general readers. There are many required and recommended reading materials for business executives or managers, and now this book can be added to their library to enhance knowledge of how to fight industrial espionage and protect themselves.

About the Author

Jeff Ahn, MS, a retired special agent from the U.S. Army is currently working as a security manager for the Defense Logistics Agency, handling all facets of security disciplines. Jeff is an adjunct faculty member at three universities teaching criminal justice courses with a concentration on computer crime and technology. Jeff is a participating member of the University and Agency Partnership Initiative (UAPI), which is a national network of homeland security educational programs sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security.