

Abstract

Diploma thesis tracks changes of approach to the clandestine human intelligence collection (HUMINT) as part of a wider process of the United States Intelligence Community reform after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Using longitudinal comparative analysis, the author observes which key factors enabling successful HUMINT collection were significantly improved and which were neglected, thus constraining a highly desirable development of this intelligence collection technique so important in combating asymmetric threats such as terrorism. Following factors were identified as critical in improving HUMINT: institutional anchoring of HUMINT, adaptation of operational techniques to successfully monitor decentralized terrorism, 'dependence' of the US intelligence community on technological means of intelligence collection, and availability of qualified and especially linguistically adept intelligence professionals in responsible agencies.

Keywords

CIA, DIA, HUMINT, intelligence, reform, terrorism, United States of America