
Office Of Strategic Services 1942 45 The World War Ii Origins Of The Cia Elite

Role Of The Office Of Strategic Services In Operation Torch
The OSS and CIA
The Role of the Office of Strategic Services in Operation Torch
Shared History, Shared Missions, Maximized Interoperability
Foreign Intelligence
The Role of the Office of Strategic Service in Operation Torch
Behind Japanese Lines
The CASSIA Spy Ring in World War II Austria
Foreign Intelligence
The Labor Branch of the Office of Strategic Services
No Bugles for Spies
Wartime Washington
OSS TOP SECRET OPERATIONS. Volume 1
US Office of Strategic Services Foreign Nationalities Branch Files, 1942 - 1945
Double Crossed
Office of Strategic Services 1942-45
The O.S.S. in Italy, 1942-1945
Simple Sabotage Field Manual
Bang-Bang Boys, Jedburghs, and the House of Horrors
From Hitler's Doorstep
Office of Strategic Services 1942-45
OSS Against the Reich
Special Operations in WWII
War Report, Office of Strategic Services (OSS)
The Special Operations Executive and the Office of Strategic Services
OSS Training and Service Abroad in World War II
Office of Strategic Services Detachment 101, Nazira, India, 1942-1945
OSS, Office of Strategic Services
The Secret War
Sisterhood of Spies
Office of Strategic Services (OSS)
Wartime Washington
Stalking the History of the Office of Strategic Services
Women's Work?
OSS Foreign Nationalities Branch Files, 1942-1945
US Office of Strategic Services Foreign Nationalities Branch Files, 1942-1945:
Indexes
The OSS and Ho Chi Minh

The Shadow War Against Hitler
No Bugles for Spies
US Office of Strategic Services Foreign Nationalities Branch Files, 1942-1945:
Bibliography

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The OSS and CIA CreateSpace

The proceedings of the first major scholarly conference on the OSS, which was in existence from 1941 through 1945. Includes 24 papers presented by veterans and historians of the OSS. Offers new insights into the activities and importance of the U.S.'s first modern national intelligence agency. Discusses:

the U.S. on the brink of war; the operations of the OSS at the headquarters level and in the field throughout Western Europe, the Balkans, and Asia. Also explores the legacy of the OSS. Contributors include: Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., William Colby, Walt W. Rostow, Robin Winks, and Aline, Countess of Romanones.

*The Role of the Office of Strategic
Services in Operation Torch* Bloomsbury
Publishing

When people think about the Second World War, they seldom think in terms of silence and small acts. This was a war in which the industry of entire nations was rearranged to feed fighting, and it was fought on a scale in which battles could include hundreds of thousands of combatants. Whole cities and populations were destroyed, with millions of casualties occurring at places like Leningrad. But World War II was also a conflict in which modern covert operations first hit their stride. From the jungles of Burma to the streets of Paris, spies, saboteurs, and commandos carried out missions built on secrecy and cunning. Precise, self-contained operations could be as important to the outcome of the war as acts of massive destruction, whether it involved targeted assassinations, sabotaging key logistics, or counterintelligence to break up the enemy's own rings. At the time, most of these operations were hidden from the public since that was the only way they could be successfully carried out, but in the years since, stories about various missions have emerged. They paint a picture of incredible courage and

ingenuity, whether in war zones, enemy territory, or far from the front lines. Though it might be hard to believe, the Americans did not have a covert operations organization when they joined the war, and like the British, it took them some time to realize it could be a powerful tool. As a result, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was not established until June 13, 1942, six months after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Voices within the Pentagon, State Department, and White House all opposed the establishment of this new and untested organization that would carry out activities normally considered unacceptable, so officials within the OSS had to fight for the very existence of the organization, battling through layers of bureaucracy to get the resources it needed and ensure its independence of action. They also worked hard to justify the use of covert tactics in warfare, to the extent that its leader, William "Wild Bill" Donovan, cited precedents that stretched back to the Bible. In time, all the hard work led to the growth of the OSS into an organization with over 13,000 staff and 40 offices scattered across the world. Its purposes were initially similar to that of Britain's Special Operations Executive, including espionage, sabotage, and intelligence assessments, but with time and experience, it expanded to include economic, psychological, and guerrilla warfare, as well as counter-intelligence work. And of course, it would all chart a path for the early days of America's most famous intelligence agency, the CIA. *Shared History, Shared Missions, Maximized Interoperability* The Floating Press

Using a wealth of information from recently declassified documents as well as his extensive collection of personal

papers, Corvo presents the only truly authoritative study of the O.S.S. Corvo, who was chief of O.S.S. operations in Italy during the Italian campaign, effectively sets the record straight and offers a detailed picture of the work of the Italian Secret Intelligence Section, its relationship to other parts of the intelligence community, and the impact of its operations on postwar U.S.-Italian relations. Because of the restricted status of most Office of Strategic Service documents, postwar studies of the O.S.S. in World War II have been based more on speculation and hearsay than on fact. Using a wealth of information from recently declassified documents as well as his extensive collection of personal papers, Corvo presents the only truly authoritative treatment of the subject yet published. The author, who was chief of O.S.S. operations in Italy during the Italian campaign, effectively sets the record straight and offers a detailed picture of the work of the Italian Secret Intelligence Section, its relationship to other parts of the intelligence community, and the impact of its operations on postwar U.S.-Italian relations. He corrects the many misconceptions, distortions, and historical errors that have resulted from a lack of information about specific O.S.S. operations and reveals and describes several operations that remained altogether secret for four decades. Corvo examines the challenges faced by O.S.S. Director William J. Donovan, including pressures arising from the jealousy of competing intelligence services and the extraordinary demands placed on his organization by high military and diplomatic officials. The conduct of field operations is discussed, together with prior intelligence planning, recruitment,

and training of O.S.S. personnel in the United States. The author considers the contributions of other branches such as Special Operations, X-2, research and analysis, maritime units, and commando-type operational groups, as well as the crucial collaboration between O.S.S. and Italian underground forces. Biographical sketches of Italian resistance leaders are supplied. The first full and accurate account of the O.S.S. operations, methods, and strategies that were to serve as a blueprint for military intelligence in every theater of the war, this book adds significantly to our knowledge of World War II, and will be of interest to scholars in that field and to specialists in military history, military intelligence, and related areas.

Foreign Intelligence Independently Published

Since the Global War on Terrorism began, United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) have been engaged in a collaborative partnership within United States Country Teams. With a shared history, including shared successes, the two organizations have experienced mission overlap, with United States Special Operations Forces (USSOF) sometimes participating in intelligence collection, and the CIA on occasion conducting more kinetic operations. Opportunities for operational overlap have helped both organizations, allowing increased mission success through increased location access, augmented numbers, shared resources, and other benefits that aid their performance. However, areas of friction also exist, including in communications platforms, Title 10 and Title 50 authorities, and lack of awareness of each other's organizational norms. This thesis details the shared history starting

before World War II, examines the policies that uphold both, and conducts interviews with USSOF and CIA personnel, including those at the Naval Postgraduate School's Defense Analysis Department. This thesis finds several positive benefits from USSOF and CIA collaboration and identifies key areas of potential friction so as to document best practices for maximized interoperability that support national security interests. This compilation includes a reproduction of the 2019 Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community. I. Introduction * A. Problem Statement * B. Research Question * C. Literature Review * 1. The National Security Strategy and the National Defense Strategy * 2. Improvements to the Global SOF Network * 3. Operational Overlap * 4. Title 10 and Title 50 Authorities * 5. Conclusion * D. Methodology * E. Chapter Outline * II. Early History of U.S. Special Operations Forces and the Central Intelligence Agency * A. The Creation of the Office of the Coordinator of Information (1941) * B. The Beginning of the Office of Strategic Services (1942-1943) * C. OSS Successes in World War II * D. Early Post-World War II USSOF and CIA Overlap * E. Intelligence Services During the Vietnam War * F. Conclusion * III. Organizational Restructuring and the Emergence of Friction Between USSOF and the CIA * A. Background: The Need for Organizational Restructuring * B. The Goldwater-Nichols Act (1986) * C. Creation of the Counterterrorism Center (1986) and Defense HUMINT Services (1992) * D. Congress, DOD, and the CIA: Gulf War and Post-Cold War * E. Further Organizational Change: 9/11 and the 9/11 Commission Report * F. USSOF and CIA Interoperability and Challenges Since

2001 * IV. USSOF and CIA Interview Findings * A. Interviewee Selection and IRB-Approved Questions * B. Benefits of Operational Overlap * 1. Autonomous Missions in Non-permissive Environments * 2. When CIA Can Better Gain Access to Mission-Essential Locations * C. Potential Areas Of Friction * 1. When Both Organizations Work with Host-Nation Forces for Different Purposes * 2. When Confusion Results from Title 10 and Title 50 Authorities * 3. When Organizational Norms Differ without Awareness * 4. When Individuals Lack Transparency * 5. When Military and Non-military Communications Platforms Fail to Allow Teams to Communicate * D. Three Solution-Oriented Interviewee Themes * 1. Furthering Opportunities for Effective Communication * 2. Furthering Opportunities for USSOF and CIA Interactions * 3. The Ideal Scenario: Relationship Building over Several Missions * V. Conclusion * A. Synthesis * B. Recommendations * 1. Further Identify Mission Overlap and Share Resources to Achieve Common Objectives * 2. Increase Understanding of Missions and Authorities * 3. Increase Communication and Joint Training to Enhance Transparency and Build Trust

The Role of the Office of Strategic Service in Operation Torch McFarland Filled with revelations and replete with telling detail, this riveting book lifts the curtain on the United States' secret intelligence operations in the war against Nazi Germany.

Behind Japanese Lines Independently Published

A brief history of secret British and American World War II organizations, their training, tools, successes, and their legacy. Winston Churchill famously instructed the head of the Special

Operations Executive to "Set Europe ablaze!" Agents of both the British Special Operations Executive and the American Office of Strategic Services underwent rigorous training before making their way, undetected, into occupied Europe to do just that. Working alone or in small cells, often cooperating with local resistance groups, agents undertook missions behind enemy lines involving sabotage, subversion, organizing resistance groups and intelligence-gathering. SOE's first notable success was the destruction of a power station in France, stopping work at a vital U-boat base. Later operations included the assassination of Himmler's deputy Reinhard Heyrich and ending the Nazi atomic bomb program by destroying the heavy water plant at Vemork, Norway. OSS operatives established anti-Nazi resistance groups across Europe, and managed to smuggle operatives into Nazi Germany, including running one of the war's most important spies, German diplomat Fritz Kolbe. All missions were incredibly dangerous and many agents were captured, tortured, and ultimately killed—the life expectancy of an SOE wireless operator in occupied France was just six weeks. In this short history, historian James Stejskal examines why these agencies were established, the training regime and ingenious tools developed to enable agents to undertake their missions, their operational successes, and their legacy.

The CASSIA Spy Ring in World War II Austria Praeger

The Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA, was founded in 1942 by William 'Wild Bill' Donovan under the direction of President Roosevelt. Agents were enlisted from both the armed services and civilians to produce operational groups specialising

in different foreign areas including Italy, Norway, Yugoslavia and China. In 1944 the number of men and women working in the service totalled nearly 13,500. This intriguing story of the origins and development of the American espionage forces covers all of the different departments involved, with a particular emphasis on the courageous teams operating in the field. The volume is illustrated with many photographs, including images from the film director John Ford who led the OSS Photographic Unit and parachuted into Burma in 1943. Foreign Intelligence Kent State University Press

"Considered a legacy unit of U.S. Army Special Operations Forces, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) has assumed almost mythical stature since World War II. Several OSS veterans, among them Colonel Aaron Bank, Lieutenant Colonel Jack T. Shannon, and Majors Herbert R. Brucker and Caesar J. Civitella brought unconventional warfare (UW) tactics and techniques to Special Forces in the early 1950s. It should be remembered, however, that the short-lived OSS (1942 to 1945) had two basic missions: its primary one was to collect, analyze, and disseminate foreign intelligence; its secondary one was to conduct unconventional warfare. The first, executed primarily by the Research and Analysis branch (R&A), was considered the most important during the war. It is the second mission of UW, however, that has received the most attention since WWII. It was this element of the OSS that provided the most exciting stories and which was cloaked by an aura of secrecy and mystery. This book is designed to serve as a primer on the UW elements of the OSS. It is not an exhaustive look at the OSS, nor does it address every OSS function or branch. Its intent is to

provide the reader with a basic understanding of what missions the separate OSS branches had, what the main operational efforts were, and where they took place geographically"-- Preliminary page.

The Labor Branch of the Office of Strategic Services Columbia University Press

The first chapter of this thesis provides the background of the Labor Branch and the OSS as a whole. From the OSS's inception in 1942 through its postwar transformation into the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), I cover the evolution of the foreign intelligence community in the United States. This includes sections on the politics within the OSS, the reasons the Labor Branch has not been a focal point of OSS research, and quirks about the Labor Branch that make it stand out from the rest of the OSS. The Labor Branch's specific role in the infiltration of Germany is also discussed in chapter one. Chapter two is an extension of the materials presented in the first chapter. It focuses on a section of the Labor Branch called Bach Section. This section was devoted to making the infiltration of Germany possible by creating cover stories, forging documents, and preparing agents to go to Germany in the midst of Nazism and be able to survive, gather intelligence, and create resistance networks. The bravery, intelligence, and will of the Bach Section are clear in this chapter, and the reader will recognize that, without the Labor Branch and their colleagues at the Bach Section, no one, be they with the OSS or British intelligence, would have had much success in infiltrating Germany during World War II. My third chapter is a bit more complicated than the first two. In it, I discuss the nuances of writing

historical fiction responsibly and as a viable means of public history. As guidance, I undertake a discussion of the OSS in published works of fiction. I give an overview of the way different novelists handle the bureaucracy, agents, accomplishments, and failures of the OSS, revealing what I feel each does effectively and poorly. While discussing each of the potential strengths and pitfalls of historical fiction, especially as seen in the OSS novels, I then provide real examples of how historical fiction might work with a case study involving the OSS Labor Branch. One particular OSS mission, known as the Hammer Mission, serves as my example. I detail different parts of the mission, the men who participated, their training, and the mission itself and discuss how to use these details within a novel.

No Bugles for Spies Independently Published

This Simple Sabotage Field Manual, a genuine guide from the Second World War, states that its purpose is to "characterize simple sabotage, to outline its possible effects, and to present suggestions for inciting and executing it." Among the other fine pieces of advice in this handy volume, one is encouraged to "switch address labels on enemy baggage", "let cutting tools grow dull", "forget to provide paper in toilets", and "change sign posts at intersections and forks; the enemy will go the wrong way and it may be miles before he discovers his mistakes."

Wartime Washington US Naval Institute Press

Documents consist of departmental memos and reports, correspondence with individuals, and press clippings and press reports which deal with American Jewish groups during 1942-1945, as well as issues relating to Palestine, Jews and

Jewish refugees during World War II. *OSS TOP SECRET OPERATIONS. Volume 1* Greenwood

The untold story of the Christian missionaries who played a crucial role in the allied victory in World War II What makes a good missionary makes a good spy. Or so thought "Wild" Bill Donovan when he secretly recruited a team of religious activists for the Office of Strategic Services. They entered into a world of lies, deception, and murder, confident that their nefarious deeds would eventually help them expand the kingdom of God. In *Double Crossed*, historian Matthew Avery Sutton tells the extraordinary story of the entwined roles of spy-craft and faith in a world at war. Missionaries, priests, and rabbis, acutely aware of how their actions seemingly conflicted with their spiritual calling, carried out covert operations, bombings, and assassinations within the centers of global religious power, including Mecca, the Vatican, and Palestine. Working for eternal rewards rather than temporal spoils, these loyal secret soldiers proved willing to sacrifice and even to die for Franklin Roosevelt's crusade for global freedom of religion. Chosen for their intelligence, powers of persuasion, and ability to seamlessly blend into different environments, Donovan's recruits included people like John Birch, who led guerilla attacks against the Japanese, William Eddy, who laid the groundwork for the Allied invasion of North Africa, and Stewart Herman, who dropped lone-wolf agents into Nazi Germany. After securing victory, those who survived helped establish the CIA, ensuring that religion continued to influence American foreign policy. Surprising and absorbing at every turn, *Double Crossed* is the untold story of World War II espionage and a profound account of the

compromises and doubts that war forces on those who wage it.

US Office of Strategic Services Foreign Nationalities Branch Files, 1942 - 1945
Hassell Street Press

The Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA, was founded in 1942 by William 'Wild Bill' Donovan under the direction of President Roosevelt. Agents were enlisted from both the armed services and civilians to produce operational groups specialising in different foreign areas including Italy, Norway, Yugoslavia and China. In 1944 the number of men and women working in the service totalled nearly 13,500.

This intriguing story of the origins and development of the American espionage forces covers all of the different departments involved, with a particular emphasis on the courageous teams operating in the field. The volume is illustrated with many photographs, including images from the film director John Ford who led the OSS Photographic Unit and parachuted into Burma in 1943. *Double Crossed* Simon and Schuster

This thesis evaluates the role of Allied strategic and operational intelligence in conjunction with Department of State actions in French North Africa from 1940 through the invasion, Operation TORCH, November 8, 1942. The primary focus is to evaluate whether or not the OSS collected the required intelligence information as their accounts have stated. This paper also looks at the operational requirements of advance force operations to determine if the OSS was successful in accomplishing the required tasks for the operational planning and execution of Operation TORCH. The final analysis reveals that the OSS was successful in answering most of the information requirements, but only with the help of other Allied

intelligence collection agencies.

Office of Strategic Services 1942-45
Basic Books

Much has been written about the Office of Strategic Services (OSS)--the forerunner of the CIA--and the exploits of its agents during World War II. Virtually unknown, however, is the work of the extraordinary community of scholars who were handpicked by "Wild Bill" Donovan and William L. Langer and recruited for wartime service in the OSS's Research and Analysis Branch (R&A). Known to insiders as the "Chairborne Division," the faculty of R&A was drawn from a dozen social science disciplines and challenged to apply its academic skills in the struggle against fascism. Its mandate: to collect, analyze, and disseminate intelligence about the enemy. Foreign Intelligence is the first comprehensive history of this extraordinary behind-the-scenes group. The R&A Branch assembled scholars of widely divergent traditions and practices--Americans and recent European émigrés; philosophers, historians, and economists; regionalists and functionalists; Marxists and positivists--all engaged in the heady task of translating the abstractions of academic discourse into practical politics. Drawing on extensive, newly declassified archival sources, Barry M. Katz traces the careers of the key players in R&A, whose assessments helped to shape U.S. policy both during and after the war. He shows how these scholars, who included some of the most influential theorists of our time, laid the foundation of modern intelligence work. Their reports introduced the theories and methods of academic discourse into the workings of government, and when they returned to their universities after the war, their wartime experience forever

transformed the world of scholarship. Authoritative, probing, and wholly original, *Foreign Intelligence* not only sheds new light on this overlooked aspect of the U.S. intelligence record, it also offers a startling perspective on the history of intellectual thought in the twentieth century.

The O.S.S. in Italy, 1942-1945

Independently Published

Some will be shocked to find out that the United States and Ho Chi Minh, our nemesis for much of the Vietnam War, were once allies. Indeed, during the last year of World War II, American spies in Indochina found themselves working closely with Ho Chi Minh and other anti-colonial factions—compelled by circumstances to fight together against the Japanese. Dixee Bartholomew-Feis reveals how this relationship emerged and operated and how it impacted Vietnam's struggle for independence. The men of General William Donovan's newly-formed Office of Strategic Services closely collaborated with communist groups in both Europe and Asia against the Axis enemies. In Vietnam, this meant that OSS officers worked with Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Minh, whose ultimate aim was to rid the region of all imperialist powers, not just the Japanese. Ho, for his part, did whatever he could to encourage the OSS's negative view of the French, who were desperate to regain their colony. Revealing details not previously known about their covert operations, Bartholomew-Feis chronicles the exploits of these allies as they developed their network of informants, sabotaged the Japanese occupation's infrastructure, conducted guerrilla operations, and searched for downed American fliers and Allied POWs. Although the OSS did not bring Ho Chi Minh to power,

Bartholomew-Feis shows that its apparent support for the Viet Minh played a significant symbolic role in helping them fill the power vacuum left in the wake of Japan's surrender. Her study also hints that, had America continued to champion the anti-colonials and their quest for independence, rather than caving in to the French, we might have been spared our long and very lethal war in Vietnam. Based partly on interviews with surviving OSS agents who served in Vietnam, Bartholomew-Feis's engaging narrative and compelling insights speak to the yearnings of an oppressed people—and remind us that history does indeed make strange bedfellows.

Simple Sabotage Field Manual Penn State Press

In early 1942, with World War II going badly, President Roosevelt turned to General William "Wild Bill" Donovan, now known historically as the "Father of Central Intelligence," with orders to form a special unit whose primary mission was to prepare for the eventual reopening of the Burma Road linking Burma and China by performing guerilla operations behind the Japanese lines. Thus was born OSS Detachment 101, the first clandestine special force formed by Donovan and one that would play a highly dangerous but vital role in the reconquest of Burma by the Allies. *Behind Japanese Lines*, originally published in 1979, is the exciting story of the men of Detachment 101, who, with their loyal native allies—the Kachin headhunters—fought a guerilla war for almost three years. It was a war not only against a tough and unyielding enemy, but against the jungle itself, one of the most difficult and dangerous patches of terrain in the world. Exposed to blistering heat and threatened by

loathsome tropical diseases, the Western-raised OSS men also found themselves beset by unfriendly tribesmen and surrounded by the jungle's unique perils—giant leeches, cobras, and rogue tigers. Not merely a war narrative, *Behind Japanese Lines* is an adventure story, the story of unconventional men with an almost impossible mission fighting an irregular war in supremely hostile territory. Drawing upon the author's own experiences as a member of Detachment 101, interviews with surviving 101 members, and classified documents, Dunlop's tale unfolds with cinematic intensity, detailing the danger, tension, and drama of secret warfare. Never before have the activities of the OSS been recorded in such authentic firsthand detail. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

[Bang-Bang Boys, Jedburghs, and the House of Horrors](#) Casemate

Bang-Bang Boys, Jedburghs, and the House of Horrors is an authoritative look at the history of the training and operations of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. The OSS, created by President Franklin Roosevelt in June 1942 (seven months

after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor) and headed by William "Wild Bill" Donovan, the OSS was to fill a vital role of intelligence-gathering and special operations during the war. From the intensive training at several National Park service units in the U.S. and at overseas camps, the men and women of the OSS were trained to fight, survive, and successfully complete their missions under unimaginably dangerous conditions. *Bang-Bang Boys*, originally prepared for the U.S. National Park Service in 2008 as OSS Training in the National Parks and Service Abroad in World War II, and based on the exhaustive research and interviews conducted by the author, tells their story. Included are 54 pages of maps and photographs. Author John W. Chambers II is a Distinguished Professor of History at Rutgers University and the author of a number of books on military history.

[From Hitler's Doorstep](#) Pickle Partners Publishing

No Bugles for Spies chronicles the formation and important missions of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. The OSS, created in 1942, was the first centralized agency of United States for both the civilian and military intelligence community. The mission of the OSS was to collect foreign intelligence and to sabotage enemy war efforts. Maintaining espionage, analysis, and research forces, the OSS acted as a clearinghouse for information gathered from human and signals intelligence sources. At its peak, the agency employed 13,000 men and women. Before World War II and the formation of the OSS, the United States employed only small, select intelligence forces within the military. The Army had the Signals Intelligence Service, a

surveillance and cryptanalysis force, and the Navy had its own intelligence service. Despite the recognition by national leaders that peacetime intelligence was a strategic necessity, the War Department's G-2 Intelligence Division was ill-equipped to analyze and disseminate the intelligence information it received from military operations. The outbreak of World War II in Europe prompted President Franklin D. Roosevelt to press for a more centralized and capable national intelligence service. In 1941, with the aid of

representatives from the British intelligence community, Roosevelt and his advisors drafted a plan for the creation of a new United States intelligence organization. William J. Donovan was appointed as the first director of the OSS. Following the war, the OSS was disbanded, but, in the face of growing Cold War-threats, the Central Intelligence Agency was formed a short-time later. This edition includes a new Preface by Steve Chadde and photographs illustrating the activities of the OSS.