

OSS 108: Tradecraft

A. Mr. Jack Davis, Text

Mr. Jack Davis, Senior Intelligence Service (Retired), is widely-regarded as the dean emeritus of the American intelligence analysts and educators. Founder of the Intelligence Successes and Failures Course, the Intelligence Producer-Consumer Relations Course, as well as the precursor course to the Harvard Intelligence Policy Executive Seminar, he has long been a sharp critic of any analysis process that does not make a substantive difference and a distinctive professional contribution to policy officials as decisionmakers. Mr. Davis has worked continuously since 1956 at CIA on one or another aspect of intelligence analysis. Since 1990 he has been an independent contractor. He started in an era when analysts relied on carbon copies and mimeographs to communicate to policy clients. He was the founder of the ground-breaking CIA internal electronic bulletin board "Friends of Analysis" and today runs an electronic bulletin board on "Alternative Analysis. He defined Alternative Analysis as structuring gaps in information to help clients manage substantive uncertainties that impact on US policy interests. His "Analytic Tradecraft Notes", published in collected form by CIA, will be distributed at OSS21.

B. Mr. Jack Davis, Official Notes

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

[Previous](#) [OSS '00 PRIMER 006 TOp Secret Kodak Moment in Space Shakes Global Security \(Chuck Snowden Handout\),](#)

[Next](#) [OSS '00 PRIMER 008 Intelligence Analysis in a New Century: A Cumudgeon's View by Jack Davis,](#)

[Return to Electronic Index Page](#)