OPEN SOURCES AND INTELLIGENT SOLUTIONS
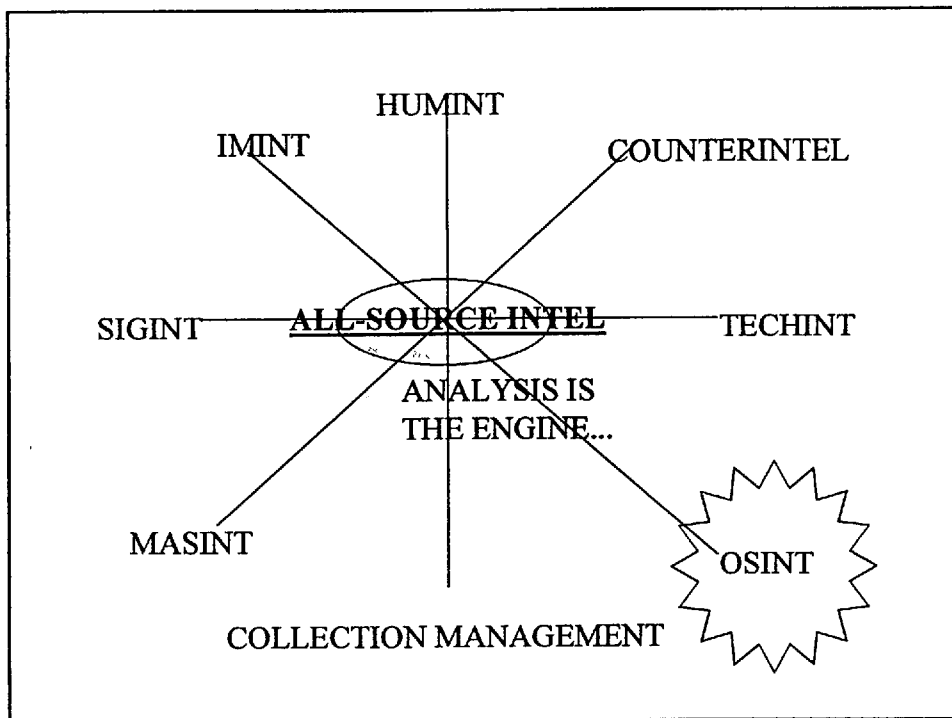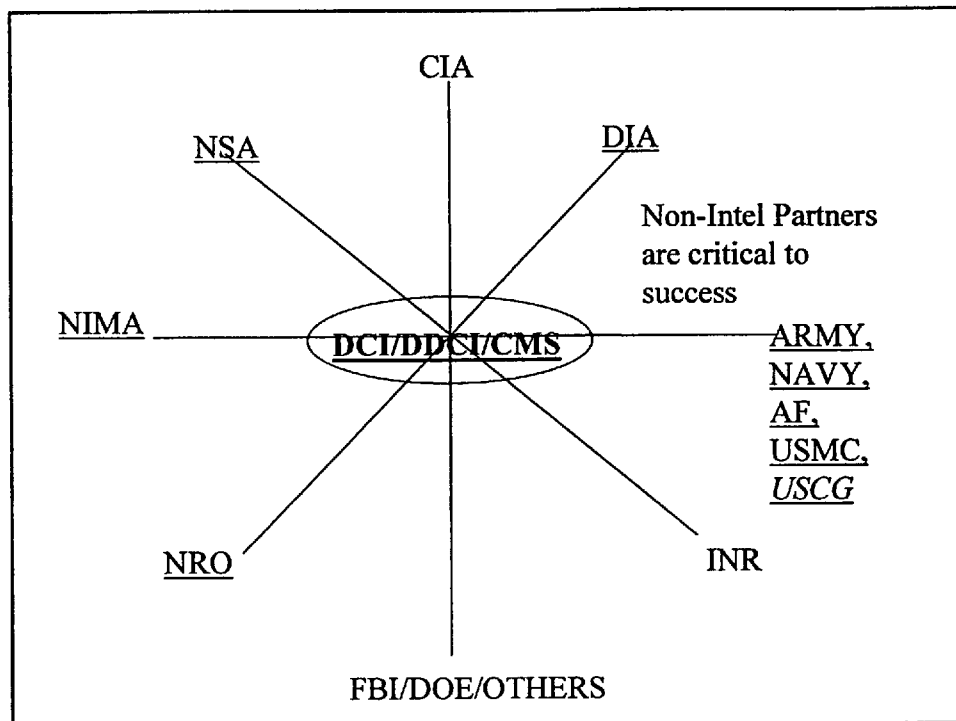
Patrick M. Hughes

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HUMINT

IMINT

COUNTERINTEL

SIGINT   ALL-SOURCE INTEL   TECHINT

ANALYSIS IS
THE ENGINE...

MASINT

OSINT

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

CIA

NSA   DIA

Non-Intel Partners
are critical to
success

NIMA ____ DCI/DDCI/CMS ____ ARMY,
NAVY,
AF,
USMC,
USCG

NRO   INR

FBI/DOE/OTHERS

OSINT POSITIVES

- EASE AND SPEED OF ACCESS
- CLARITY
- APPLICABILITY
- UTILITY
- SYNERGY
- COST EFFECTIVENESS
- OTHER GOOD THINGS ABOUT OSINT

OSINT ACHIEVEMENTS

- ADVENT OF OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE
- ACCESS TO INTERNET FACILITATED
- OSINT ELEMENTS SUPPORTED...(+/-)
- NEW ANALYTIC TECHNIQUES
- OPEN MINDED LEADERS
- RIDING THE NEW INFO-TECH WAVE

OSINT NEGATIVES

- NOT WELL FOCUSED
- REQUIRES A FILTER
- NOT SPECIFICALLY FOCUSED
- NOT READILY DIRECTABLE
- NOT DEPENDABLE
- UNUSUAL FEATURES ABOUND
- MORE BAD STUFF ABOUT OSINT

OSINT CHALLENGES

- STILL A VAGUE DISCIPLINE
- WHOSE IN CHARGE? WHO SHOULD BE IN CHARGE?
- WHAT ARE THE LIMITS OF THIS INTELLIGENCE FORM?
- HOW DO WE OPTIMIZE INVESTMENT?

ON BALANCE...

- GREAT UTILITY
- GOOD FOR LAYING DOWN AN INFORMATION BASELINE
- CAN PROVIDE IMAGINATIVE LEADS
- HOLD THE PROMISE OF MORE
- SINGS TO THE DATA BASE GODDESS
- SOMETIMES...PERFECT

WHAT NEXT?

- FUNCTIONALIZE
- RATIONALIZE
- DIRECT THROUGH EXPERIENCE
- DEVELOP TOOLS TO OPTIMIZE AND MAXIMIZE
- UNDERSTAND UTILITY
- MAKE IT PART OF THE "SYSTEM"

WHAT ELSE?

- IMAGINE THE OPTIMAL FUTURE
- EMPOWER THE OBJECTIVE AGENTS FOR CHANGE
- INTEGRATE
- USE IT -- REDIRECT THE SAVINGS (IF THERE ARE ANY?) INTO OTHER WORK

BOTTOM LINES

- OSINT IS HERE TO STAY
- IT IS BECOMING PART OF THE SYSTEM
- IT IS NOT YET FULLY UNDERSTOOD NOR IS IT FULLY FUNCTIONALIZED
- TOOLS -- WE NEED EM'
- WE ARE ON THE WAY (AT THE GLACIAL PACE OF CHANGE IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND U.S. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY)

THANKS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY

- Good Luck To The Practitioners Of OSINT

- More Importantly -- Good Luck To The Users And The Men And Women Of Our Armed Forces And Other Government Agencies...Who Risk Their Lives...In Part Based On The Information They Receive

Patrick M. Hughes

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

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