CALL FOR PAPERS
International Conference

Need to Know V:
The Human Element in Intelligence

Greifswald (Germany), 5-6 November 2015

People play a key role in the intelligence process; they constitute intelligence organizations and formal structures; they fulfill intelligence procedures; they take part in informal groups, rituals and discourses; they define who their enemy is; they carry out operations; they work as case officers; they are recruited as agents; they live next door under cover; they analyze and interpret the collected information. In the end people decide if they want to believe the results presented to them. Despite NSA, hackers, digital surveillance and data mining are today in the eye of the public, the human factor can not be ignored when studying intelligence. Thus, the fifth Need to Know conference will focus on different aspects of the human factor in the intelligence process.

Suggested papers can deal with both groups and individual cases which exemplifies general issues. The conference raises such questions as:
- How the methodology of social sciences, e.g. anthropology, psychology or sociology can be used in the research into intelligence
- How group dynamics shape intelligence organization
- How ideological and political bias work among intelligence environments
- How intelligence services operate and optimizes networks
- How intelligence services develop HUMINT networks
- How agents interact with in their objects
- How effective are methods of verification and control of HUMINT sources
- How bias prevents security services from exposing HUMINT networks
- How politician have shaped history when deciding upon intelligence information

The papers should be based on firm historical documentation. The organizers encourage papers which combine theoretical aspects and empirical research.

The conference is organized by the Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation, the Center for Cold War Studies of the University of Southern Denmark, the Ernst Moritz Arndt University of Greifswald, and the Baltic Intelligence and Security Studies Association.

The language of the conference will be English.

All those interested are encouraged to participate – both as presenters and as auditors. In the case of the presenters, the accommodation, meals, and travel expenses will be covered by the conference organizers.

Conference participation is free of charge.

The deadline for conference paper proposals (to be submitted on the attached form) is May 15, 2015. Please enclose, along with the proposal, an abstract of your paper of 500–700 words in English and a CV. The conference program will be made available by mid June 2015.

The "Need to Know" conferences were founded in 2011 and take place annually. The focus of the conferences is on foreign intelligence and they invite scholars of intelligence studies as well as former practitioners to an interdisciplinary discussion of historical, current and methodological questions within the field. Intelligence studies have benefitted greatly from the opening of archives in Central Europe and it is the result of this research in particular, which has been presented on the conferences. The conferences have established themselves as an important meeting place for scholars from Europe, the US, Canada and Russia.

Submissions and additional questions should be sent to: anna.piekarska@ipn.gov.pl

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