James M. Olson

Born in Le Mars, Iowa. B.A. (mathematics and economics), University of Iowa. J.D. (international law), University of Iowa. Member of Iowa Bar. U.S. Navy (attained rank of Lieutenant Commander, USNR).

Career officer in the Directorate of Operations of the Central Intelligence Agency, serving mostly overseas in clandestine operations. Served as Chief of Counterintelligence at CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia. Overseas assignments in the U.S.S.R., Austria, Mexico, and elsewhere. Foreign languages: French, German, Russian, Swedish, and Spanish.

Recipient of the Intelligence Medal of Merit, the Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal, the Counterintelligence Excellence Medal, the Donovan Award, and several distinguished achievement awards. Awarded the Silver Star Award at the Bush School for excellence in teaching.

Experience in international affairs, economics, trade negotiations, intelligence support to the military and the law enforcement community, counterintelligence, counterterrorism, counternarcotics, and technical collection systems; senior intelligence advisor to several U.S. ambassadors; extensive liaison with the State Department, Treasury Department, FBI, Pentagon, NSC, NSA, DEA, and U.S. Congress.

Senior faculty member at the Joint Military Intelligence College, Washington, D.C, 1997; taught courses on counterintelligence and military intelligence.

Assigned by the CIA to the Bush School of Government and Public Service in College Station, Texas, as an officer-in-residence in December 1997. Teaching courses on intelligence and counterintelligence. Frequent guest lecturer at other courses, conferences, and symposia. Appointed a permanent faculty member of the Bush School in August 2000.

Author of "The Ten Commandments of Counterintelligence", "Fair Play: The Moral Dilemmas of Spying, and "To Catch a Spy: The Art of Counterintelligence."

Outside interests: church, tennis, bicycling, baseball (avid fan), foreign languages, history, literature.

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