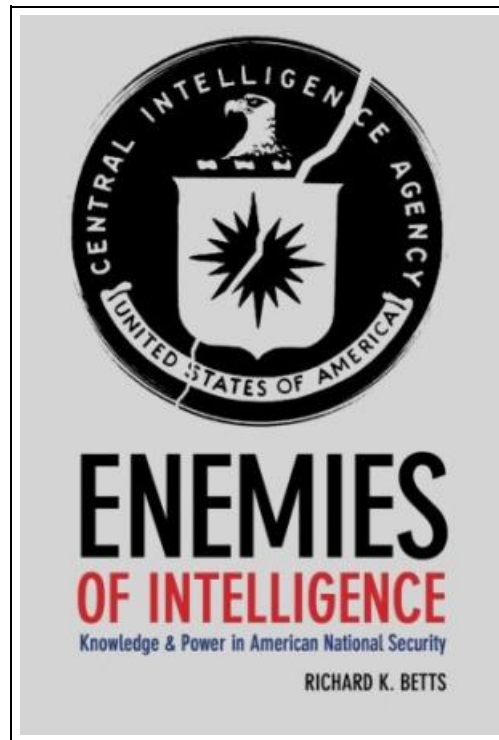


## Enemies of Intelligence Knowledge and Power in American National Security



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### ***Reviews***

*Basically no words to clarify. Of course, it is perform, still an amazing and interesting literature. Its been printed in an exceptionally basic way which is only soon after i finished reading through this ebook where actually altered me, change the way i really believe.*  
(Newton Runolfsson)

## ENEMIES OF INTELLIGENCE KNOWLEDGE AND POWER IN AMERICAN NATIONAL SECURITY

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Columbia University Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 264 pages. Dimensions: 8.6in. x 5.6in. x 0.7in. The tragic events of September 11, 2001, and the false assessment of Saddam Husseins weapons arsenal were terrible reminders that good information is essential to national security. These failures convinced the American public that their intelligence system was broken and prompted a radical reorganization of agencies and personnel, but as Richard K. Betts argues in this book, critics and politicians have severely underestimated the obstacles to true reform. One of the nations foremost political scientists, Betts draws on three decades of work within the U. S. intelligence community to illuminate the paradoxes and problems that frustrate the intelligence process. Unlike Americas efforts to improve its defenses against natural disasters, strengthening its strategic assessment capabilities means outwitting crafty enemies who operate beyond U. S. borders. It also requires looking within to the organizational and political dynamics of collecting information and determining its implications for policy. Combining academic research with personal experience, Betts outlines strategies for better intelligence gathering and assessment. He describes how fixing one malfunction can create another; in what ways expertise can be both a vital tool and a source of error and misjudgment; the pitfalls of always striving for accuracy in intelligence, which in some cases can render it worthless; the danger, though unavoidable, of politicizing intelligence; and the issue of secrecy when it is excessive, when it is insufficient, and how limiting privacy can in fact protect civil liberties. Betts argues that when it comes to intelligence, citizens and politicians should focus less on consistent solutions and more on achieving a delicate balance between conflicting requirements. He also emphasizes the substantial success of the intelligence community, despite its well-publicized blunders, and highlights elements of the intelligence process that need preservation and protection. Many reformers are...

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