where we are going

Sun Tzu
? c 400bce
I'm hoping for some sort of enlightenment on this assignment during the lecture.

Joel

Paul:

why intelligence?

Alejandra:

Spanish spies & more
intelligence
where we've been

writing systems

public sphere

print culture

scientific information

organization of knowledge

Stenographia: Ars per Occultam Scripturam
c. 1499
intelligence
where we're going

"Treason doth never prosper,
What's the reason?
For if it prosper,
None dare call it treason"

John Harington,
Epigrams, 1618

postal system
telegraph and telephone
photography
advertising/propaganda
advent of the computer
internet
determinism & technological sublime

"the rhetoric of the technological sublime"
Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden*, 1964

"Westward the course of empire takes its way."
"Information relates not so much to what you do say, as to what you could say … a measure of one's freedom of choice when one selects a message"

Claude Shannon & Warren Weaver,
The Mathematical Theory of Communication, 1949
"I started thinking about cryptography and secrecy systems. There is this connection; they are very similar things, in one case trying to conceal information, and in the other case trying to transmit it."

These are the important issues of trust in what type of information is spread among humans.

Rachelle

"[B]asic results [of information theory] are aimed in a very specific direction ... not necessarily relevant to such fields as psychology, economics, and other social sciences,...not a trivial matter of translating words to a new domain"

Claude Shannon, "The Bandwagon," 1956
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midwives and mirrors

philosophers as midwives

Women do not bring into the world at one time real children, and at another time counterfeits which are with difficulty distinguished from them.

--Socrates, *Theaetetus*

many faces of falsehood

If falsehood, like truth, had only one face, we would be in better shape, for we would take as certain the opposite of what the liar said. But the reverse of truth has a hundred thousand shapes and a limitless field.

--Montaigne, "On Liars," 1588?
truth values

knowledge
facts
information
misinformation
Relying on the intelligence gathered by people that you have taken over can be tricky because you have destroyed their culture and communities - increasing their incentives to seek revenge.

Janet

sources

human source \((humint)\)

communications \((sigint)\)

networks

"divine manipulation of the threads"

characteristics

disposition

competence
The best way we could gauge the intelligence discussed in the letters is with later letters. This would enable us to see how consistent the spies are and whether what they say conflicts or makes sense.

Zachary K.
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Zachary K.

"the dog that didn't bark"
Now this foreknowledge cannot be elicited from spirits; it cannot be obtained inductively from experience, nor by any deductive calculation.

Sun Tzu, *Art of War*
Jean Mabillon (1632–1707)

De Re Diplomatica, 1681

decoding
white hats & black hats

the charter of La Tour d'Auvergne

"skilfully forged [using Mabillon's principles] by a sublibrarian who ended his days in the Bastille"

--David Knowles
not all 18th century sigint successes

Los Angeles Times

Taliban leader's arrest hinged on U.S. information

Officials say an intelligence break let U.S. spies pinpoint military chief Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and help Pakistan organize a daring raid. Islamabad denies its cooperation is something new.
U.S. enables Chinese hacking of Google

By Bruce Schneier, Special to CNN
January 23, 2010 5:20 p.m. EST

(CNN) -- Google made headlines when it went public with the fact that Chinese hackers had penetrated some of its services, such as Gmail, in a politically motivated attempt at intelligence gathering. The news here isn't that Chinese hackers engage in these activities or that their attempts are technically sophisticated -- we knew that already -- it's that the U.S. government inadvertently aided the hackers.
sigint or humint?

THE CHRISTMAS DAY TERROR ATTACK

Dec. 30, 2009

Bomb Plot Exposed Lack of Intel "Urgency"
Failure to Pinpoint Credible Intel, and Information Overload Hindered Ability to Thwart Plot
By Armen Keteyian
sigint more reliable?

LETTERS; The Airport Mind Scan, and the Terror Algorithm

Published: January 6, 2010

To the Editor:

A representative from an American intelligence agency was quoted as saying the reason Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the suspect in the attempted airline bombing, was not detected as a threat was that the volume of information streaming into the various intelligence agencies is so great that there will always be a risk that connections will not be made.

This statement would have been reasonable 30 years ago, but in light of the computer power now available, it seems incomprehensible that an algorithm could not be constructed that would minimize the human factor from the equation.

Given the numerous facts that were known, if all of this information were shared (an issue that has not yet been clarified), it seems inescapable that a warning flag would have appeared, and, at the very least, his visa would have been canceled.

Nora Connell
Freeland, Md., Dec. 31, 2009
sigint more reliable?

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Nora Connell
Freeland, Md., Dec. 31, 2009
"It is difficult to gauge the reliability of some of this intelligence, as written work hides ulterior motives much better than oral communication. As such, I feel that first person relay would be superior to this version of information technology in such cases."

Michelle

**Military Is Awash in Data From Drones**

*By CHRISTOPHER DREW, Published: January 10, 2010*

HAMPTON, Va. — As the military rushes to place more spy drones over Afghanistan, remote-controlled planes are producing so much video intelligence that analysts are finding it more and more difficult to keep up.
sigint: unintended consequences
success or failure?

locational privacy

UK intelligence agencies hunt for clues on fake UK passports
The Serious Organised Crime Agency (Soca) leads full investigation into fraudulent use of British passports in Dubai

Richard Norton-Taylor
guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 17 February 2010 21:26 GMT
Article history
Profile: Jordanian 'triple agent' who killed CIA agents

Humam Khalil Abu-Mulai al-Balawi, a 'triple agent' who blew up seven CIA agents in Afghanistan, was a Jordanian doctor and Islamist who the authorities believed they had turned against al-Qaeda.

Published: 11:47 AM GMT 05 Jan 2010

Balawi was from Zarqa, the same Jordanian town as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the infamous leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq who tormented the US military and Bush administration until his death in 2006 with a terrorist campaign that inspired militants around the world and made him a rival in influence to Osama bin Laden.

Balawi, who was also known as Hamman Khalil Mohammed, died last week aged 36 when he detonated explosives at a CIA forward operating base, Camp Chapman, in Khost, eastern Afghanistan in a suicide mission.
Military Is Awash in Data From Drones

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Published: January 10, 2010

HAMPTON, Va. — As the military rushes to place more spy drones over Afghanistan, the remote-controlled planes are producing so much video intelligence that analysts are finding it more and more difficult to keep up.
reliable channels

what's signal, what's noise

France & the French Revolution, 1789

England & the Indian Mutiny, 1857
quality vs reliability

Goodhart's law

"any observed statistical regularity will tend to collapse once pressure is placed upon it for control purposes"

Charles Goodhart, "Monetary Relationships," 1975

Charles Goodhart (1936 – )
quality vs reliability

Goodhart's law

"any observed statistical regularity will tend to collapse once pressure is placed upon it for control purposes"

Charles Goodhart, "Monetary Relationships," 1975
informative noise

The rising of birds in their flight is the sign of an ambushade. Startled beasts indicate that a sudden attack is coming.

When there is dust rising in a high column, it is the sign of chariots advancing; when the dust is low, but spread over a wide area, it betokens the approach of infantry. When it branches out in different directions, it shows that parties have been sent to collect firewood. A few clouds of dust moving to and fro signify that the army is encamping.

Sun Tzu, *Art of War*, ch IX
All warfare is based on deception

Hence, when able to attack, we must seem unable; when using our forces, we must seem inactive; when we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away; when far away, we must make him believe we are near

Hold out baits to entice the enemy. Feign disorder, and crush him.
If he is secure at all points, be prepared for him. If he is in superior strength, evade him.

If your opponent is of choleric temper, seek to irritate him. Pretend to be weak, that he may grow arrogant.

If he is taking his ease, give him no rest. If his forces are united, separate them.

Attack him where he is unprepared, appear where you are not expected.
Sun Tzu

simulated disorder postulates perfect discipline, simulated fear postulates courage; simulated weakness postulates strength

Hiding order beneath the cloak of disorder is simply a question of subdivision; concealing courage under a show of timidity presupposes a fund of latent energy; masking strength with weakness is to be effected by tactical dispositions
Thus one who is skillful at keeping the enemy on the move maintains deceitful appearances, according to which the enemy will act. He sacrifices something, that the enemy may snatch at it.

By holding out baits, he keeps him on the march; then with a body of picked men he lies in wait for him.

We cannot enter into alliances until we are acquainted with the designs of our neighbors.
One way to counteract this problem would be to have multiple spies in all the categories, or scouts sent to survey the area. Isabel

spymasters & the divine skein

When these five kinds of spy are all at work, none can discover the secret system. This is called the "divine manipulation of the threads." It is the sovereign's most precious faulty. spies cannot be usefully employed without a certain intuitive sagacity
I would rather rely upon intuition and context than a formal category.

Nicola

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**Spies**

1. Local spies [native agents]: employing the services of the inhabitants of a district.

2. Inward spies [inside agents]: making use of officials of the enemy.

3. Converted spies [double agents]: getting hold of the enemy's spies and using them for our own purposes.

4. Doomed spies [expendable agents, agents provocateurs]: doing certain things openly for purposes of deception, and allowing our spies to know of them and report them to the enemy.

5. Surviving spies [living agents]: who bring back news from the enemy's camp.
The Indian spies roughly fall into three of the categories. The spies were Yamasee Indians, and when they spied on the other Yamasees, this made them ‘local spies’ in a sense; although they may not have lived in that specific village, they were members of the same tribe (p 89). The spies also falsely reported that 45 Yamasees were coming towards one village with Englishmen, making them doomed spies (p 90). Finally, the spies who made it back to report to Mathos could be classified as surviving spies (p 88).

... Ultimately, as Mathos says, we must gauge the reliability of the information based on the character and dependability of the spy, and by cross-referencing it against other accounts.

Amy Azaren

We might gauge the reliability of the letters by conducting more research of the Apalachicole in 1686 and the battles and gained territory of the English and Spanish.

Emily Bibb
These classifications can only guess at the general shape of the complex web of incentives and motivations which ultimately determine any individual spy's loyalties, access to information, and quality of transmission. Daniel

For us now to gauge the reliability of the letters would involve investigating any possible motives for falsifying information. Sanketh
"An ambassador is a man of virtue sent to lie abroad for his country; a news-writer is a man without virtue who lies at home for himself"

Sir Henry Wotton
1568–1639

trusted agents

diplomats
monks/pilgrims
journalists
merchants/sailors
women
scholars/students
(peregrinatio academica)
but first ...

to Florida