CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY & INTELLIGENCE

Description of the Field
International Security has organizations in every sector: government, private, and Nonprofit. The goal of many intelligence service providers is to produce reports consisting of evaluated information and forecasts that political, military, and government leaders can use in decision making. The government is a large employer but opportunities exist at think tanks, defense contractors and NGOS.

Career Paths and Entry Salaries
In the government, case officers stationed overseas gather intelligence and then relay the information to analysts who interpret the data for their reports. There are specialized analysts called technical analysts as well as cryptographic technicians who are experts at coding, decoding and sending secret messages. There are three categories of intelligence operations: strategic intelligence, tactical intelligence, and counterintelligence. Strategic intelligence agents keep track of world events, watch foreign leaders carefully, and study a foreign country's politics, economy, military status, and scientific advances. Tactical intelligence consists of determining which groups hold power and looking at foreign policy, public opinion, and voting statistics. Economic factors include trade agreements, the gross national product, and possible famines, all of which can influence domestic and foreign policies. Counterintelligence consists of keeping valuable information away from the enemy and prevents subversion and sabotage. The Department of Defense International Security Affairs Division develops defense positions in political-military and foreign economic affairs, including arms control and disarmament. Among its functions are negotiating and monitoring agreements with foreign governments concerning military facilities and the status of the armed forces. Salaries for those with advanced degrees are hired at the GS-9 grade with the level depending on experience. GS-9 salary ranges in the DC area begin at $44,856 (effective January 1, 2006). Updated GS Scale information can be found at: http://www.opm.gov/oca/06tables/index.asp.

Demand
Intelligence operations are closely linked to the world political situation. People with specialized skills or backgrounds in the languages and customs of certain countries will continue to be in high demand.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) merges several intelligence-related federal agencies creating one agency that has the capability to anticipate, preempt and deter threats to the homeland whenever possible, and the ability to respond quickly when such threats do materialize.   DHS is responsible for assessing the vulnerabilities of the nation's critical infrastructure and cyber security threats and will take the lead in evaluating these vulnerabilities and coordinating with other federal, state, local, and private entities to ensure the most effective response.

Qualifications Necessary to Enter the Field
An advanced degree is desirable along with the ability to speak and read a foreign language, computer literacy, excellent analytical, oral and written communication skills, and historian's skills.

Entry-level employees generally are assigned to gather information. With experience and training, they can qualify as analysts. Advancement may include postings requiring more responsibility and

assignments in foreign countries. International security specialists are promoted and given assignments according to the needs of the government. Further advancement leads to management positions.

Sample Group of Employers

Private Sector
- ➢ BAE Systems - http://www.uniteddefense.com/
- ➢ Boeing - http://www.boeing.com/
- ➢ General Dynamics - http://www.generaldynamics.com/
- ➢ Lockheed-Martin - http://www.lockheedmartin.com/
- ➢ Northrup-Grumman - http://www.northropgrumman.com/
- ➢ Raytheon - http://www.raytheon.com/
- ➢ Textron – http://www.textron.com
- ➢ TRW - http://www.trw.com
- ➢ United Technologies - http://www.utc.com/

Government Agencies
- ➢ Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) http://www.dia.mil
- ➢ Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) http://www.odci.gov
- ➢ U.S. Department of State http://www.state.gov
- ➢ Army http://www.army.mil/
- ➢ Air Force http://www.airforce.com/
- ➢ Navy http://www.navy.mil/
- ➢ Marines http://www.usmc.mil/
- ➢ U.S. Department of Energy http://www.doe.gov
- ➢ National Security Agency http://www.nsa.gov
- ➢ Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) http://www.fbi.gov
- ➢ Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS)
- ➢ Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- ➢ U.S. Department of Homeland Security http://www.dhs.gov
- ➢ U.S. Department of Treasury http://www.treasury.gov
- ➢ U.S. Coast Guard http://www.uscg.mil/USCG.shtm
- ➢ National Geospatial Intelligence Agency http://www.nima.mil
- ➢ Department of Defense, International Security Affairs Division http://www.defenselink.mil/
- ➢ International Security Group, Inc. (ISG) http://www.internationalsecurity.com/

Non Government Organizations
- ➢ Center for Defense Information (CDI) http://www.cdi.org
- ➢ The Brookings Institution http://www.brookings.edu/
- ➢ Carnegie Endowment for International Peace http://www.carnegieendowment.org/
- ➢ Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/
- ➢ Center for Strategic and International http://csis.org/
- ➢ SAIC http://www.saic.com/

Resources for Additional Information

Associations
Association of Former Intelligence Officers
6723 Whittier Ave., Suite 303A
McLean, VA 22101-4533
703-790-0320
http://www.afio.com/index.html
afio@his.com

Women In International Security
Center for Peace and Security Studies
Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service
Georgetown University
3600 N Street, NW, Lower Level
Washington, DC 20007
Tel: 202-687-3366
Fax: 202-687-3233
http://wiis.georgetown.edu

Internet Resources
- ➢ ASIS International http://www.asisonline.org/ Resource for security professionals. Formerly known as the American Society for Industrial Security, ASIS International is an international organization. Visitors to this site can read the latest issue of Security Management.
- ➢ Intelligence Careers http://www.intelligencecareers.com A good starting point for "information intelligence professionals" to find great career opportunities. This is not an IT-recruiting website. This website is all about the pursuit of "information intelligence" - careers that balance the need for world knowledge with the ability to use technology to achieve action.
- ➢ Law Enforcement Jobs http://www.lawenforcementjobs.com/ Resource for those interested in law enforcement area of the security field. The jobs are open for all to review, you can register to receive announcements of new jobs as they are posted, and they have training resources (books) and a calendar of training sessions being offered by various organizations and agencies.
- ➢ Security Management Online http://www.securitymanagement.com/ Check out education and training opportunities, learn about professional certification, or get information on scholarship and grant programs from the association. Members can also access the association's extensive career center.
- ➢ Security Jobs Network http://securityjobs.net/ Resource for security and law enforcement professionals. Job listings require a paid subscription, but much of the resource information is free including great research links to additional online security and law enforcement resources.