



*Netherlands Intelligence Studies Association (NISA)*

Stichting Inlichtingenstudies Nederland

<http://www.nisa-intelligence.nl/>

## **‘Spycatchers: The Counterintelligence Battle between Western Services and the KGB/SVR’**

**The Chatham House Rule applies to this meeting** (see below, p. 3)

**Lecturers: Dan Mulvenna, Col Val Aksilenko (ret.)**

**Date: Friday, 29 May 2009, 9.00-20.00 hrs.**

**Venue: TNO Defence, Security and Safety**

**Oude Waalsdorperweg 63**

**2509 JG The Hague, The Netherlands**

(Please note: **identity documents** have to be presented at the entrance.)

The Netherlands Intelligence Studies Association (NISA) organizes a seminar entitled **‘Spycatchers: The Counterintelligence Battle between the Western Services and the KGB/SVR’** on **Friday, 29 May 2009** at TNO Defence, Security and Safety in The Hague. The speakers at the seminar are: Dan Mulvenna and Col Val Aksilenko (ret.). The seminar is multimedia (Powerpoint with embedded audio and video).

### **Description of seminar**

The presentation examines espionage and the pursuit of “spies” from a variety of perspectives. It first provides an overview of both Western and Russian counterintelligence doctrine and practices through the Cold War to the present. It also examines the missions and programs of the counterintelligence elements of both Western and Russian services and contrasts their respective programs, operations and tradecraft.

It discusses, inter alia, the techniques and tactics of counterintelligence, defensive and offensive, and addresses such CI “myths” and “truisms” as “Dispatched [False] Defectors”; the use of staff officers as Double Agents; the “Vigilance of Colleagues” in detecting “Insider Spies”, etc. In particular the presentation focuses on the use by both sides of Double Agents, which opens a window into the adversary services’ targeting, requirements and operational methodology as well as providing a disinformation channel and opportunities to neutralize the adversary’s assets and operations.

The presentation will also discuss information elicitation and agent recruitment; a continual process from Targeting & Introduction through Development to actual Recruitment, including development of continually reviewed and updated psychological profiles. It will illustrate the importance of Recruiter/Handler rapport and the power of the Handler – Agent relationship.

Also examined are the vulnerabilities of western and other intelligence officers, particularly when abroad, and such operational tactics as “False Flag” and Third Country re-

cruitments and the handling of recruited penetrations, by such specialized KGB units as Group North of the FCD's 1<sup>st</sup> Department.

The counterintelligence concepts, practices and tradecraft discussed in this presentation are richly illustrated through a variety of operational case studies of the Russian, HVA [Stasi], DGI/DI [Cuban] and PRC [Chinese] intelligence services including, among others:

- The case of Karl Koecher, the illegal penetration of CIA by the Czech service, jointly operated with the KGB.
- Two cases of misdirected “Mole-Hunts” within the RCMP Security Service [GRIDIRON] and CIA [GRAY DECEIVER] with devastating consequences for those wrongly suspected and targeted for investigation, as well as for their families, colleagues and for their organizations. Find out how the KGB reacted in each case.
- The case of KGB Lt Col Vladimir I. VETROV [FAREWELL], a Line X officer [S & T acquisition] who “volunteered” to the French DST in Moscow in March 1981. Learn how he was betrayed and subsequently executed.
- The Chinese Approach to Espionage: The Larry Chin case.

### **The speakers**

#### **Daniel J. Mulvenna**

Dan Mulvenna retired from the Security Service of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police after 22 years of service. Graduating head of his class at the RCMP Academy he was selected into the RCMP Security Service after 4 years of exemplary field service in the Criminal Investigations Branch. Following service in the Government Personnel Security & Counter-Subversion Branches at RCMP Headquarters he was assigned to counter espionage operations against the Russian target in the Ottawa Field Office. Returning to Security Service Headquarters ten years later he was appointed Head of Operational Research in the Counterintelligence Branch focusing on Russian intelligence operations.

On retirement from the Security Service Mulvenna worked for two multinational corporations for 18 years as the senior executive responsible for global security and risk management. Drawing on his experience protecting personnel and assets in higher-risk environments from terrorist, insurgent and organized criminal activities, from 1997 to the present he has worked as a Security & Risk Management Consultant to multinational corporations and government clients. He has also conducted personnel protection and counterterrorism training programs for a variety of clients in many locations all over the world.

From 2000 to the present Dan Mulvenna has lectured on counterintelligence and counter terrorism at the Centre for Counterintelligence and Security Studies [CICentre.com] Washington D.C., to U.S. and Canadian intelligence, security and law enforcement agencies.

#### **Retired KGB Col Val Aksilenko**

Val Aksilenko is a retired Colonel of the foreign intelligence department of the KGB, the First Chief Directorate (FCD). He has lived in the United States since 1993 and is a U.S. citizen. Mr. Aksilenko retired from the KGB in 1991 after 24 years of service, mainly in the North American Department of the FCD. The peak of his career falls in the years 1982-86 when he headed the Washington branch in the North American Department. He did two tours in Washington of eleven years in total as an FCD officer under commercial and diplomatic cover and was a specialist in agent recruitment and active measures. Mr. Aksilenko knew personally many of the participants in the espionage drama that started to unfold after Aldrich Ames and Robert Hanssen began working for the KGB in 1985. Several of the CIA or FBI agents inside the KGB who were betrayed by Ames and Hanssen and later executed in the USSR, had been colleagues of Mr.

Aksilenko's at the KGB station in Washington DC. At this seminar, Col Aksilenko will speak specifically on KGB agent recruitment.

### **The Chatham House Rule**

The 'Chatham House Rule' applies to this meeting. This rule reads as follows: "**When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed**". The aim of the rule is to provide anonymity to speakers and to encourage openness and the sharing of information.

### **Registration**

Those interested in attending the seminar should register with Ben de Jong at [b.m.dejong@uva.nl](mailto:b.m.dejong@uva.nl). Tel. 00-31-20-6443200 (home) or 00-31-20-5252268 (work). Please give name, phone number and affiliation. The registration fee for the course also covers coffee breaks and lunch and is 130 euros (dinner excluded) or 150 euros (including dinner). There is a limited number of places available for students at a discount fee of 55 euros (excluding dinner) or 75 euros (dinner included). Proof of status as a student is required. When registering by email, please indicate the amount that will be paid.

The fee of 130 or 150 euros (55 or 75 euros for students) is to be transferred to **ING account 725980 of Stichting Inlichtingenstudies Nederland**, IBAN: NL16PSTB0000725980; BIC: PSTBNL21. (Please mention 'Seminar Spycatchers'). Payments for registration must be received on this account by May 20. Refunds are only possible when participation has been cancelled by email on May 25 at the latest.

### **Programme on Friday 29 May**

9.00-9.30	Arrival of participants, coffee
9.30-10.30	Lecture
10.30-10.45	Break & coffee
10.45-12.00	Lecture (continued)
12.00-13.00	Lunch
13.00-14.00	Lecture (continued)
14.00-15.00	Lecture (continued)
15.00-15.15	Break & coffee
15.15-17.15	Lecture (continued)
17.15-17.45	Q & A
17.45-18.45	Drinks
18.45-20.00	Dinner
20.00	End of seminar