



Counterintelligence Theory and Practice.
By Hank Prunckun. Lanham, MD:
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***Counterintelligence Theory and Practice*. By Hank Prunckun. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc, 2012. ISBN 978-1-4422-1911-3. Index. Illustrations. Pp. 233. \$39.95.**

Counterintelligence Theory and Practice fills a needed void: a textbook of counterintelligence processes, theories, and examples that are relevant, practical, and easy to use. Hank Prunckun, PhD, is an associate professor of Intelligence Analysis at the Australian Graduate School of Policing and Security, Charles Stuart University, Sydney. Dr. Prunckun has served in the Intelligence and Criminal Justice fields for twenty-eight years prior to his current position.

Counterintelligence is a field full of mystery and intrigue, and of course it is easily sensationalized. With various spy novels and movies that fill impressionable young minds with glamour and suspense, it is easy to see why counterintelligence attracts much attention. Hank Prunckun does not feed that genre with an action-packed thriller, but instead focuses his work on a much more needed effort: introducing counterintelligence as a profession.

Chapter one begins by introducing the reader to the challenges that face counterintelligence, and it does this through historical examples of counterintelligence lessons. While providing pertinent illustrations of why counterintelligence is so important, Prunckun does not walk the reader through constant mundane examples. He quickly moves on to the fundamentals and theories of counterintelligence, which is what makes this book enjoyable. He provides the context of why counterintelligence is important, and then pulls the reader into the world of counterintelligence operations.

Prunckun, while demonstrating doctrinal counterintelligence processes, provides his own variation of the theories and practice of counterintelligence. Chapters two and three discuss the fundamentals and theories of counterintelligence, which he lays out nicely for the most novice counterintelligence reader. In chapter two, he lays out his model for offensive and defensive counterintelligence. He introduces the reader to defensive deterrence and defensive detection, offensive detection, offensive deception, and offensive neutralization. Later he further refines the defensive operations to include physical, personal, and other aspects of security. He is clear when mentioning that counterintelligence is much more than security, and he demonstrates this throughout the book. The subsequent chapters, four through thirteen, discuss in detail Prunckun's essential topic, offensive and defensive counterintelligence. One chapter at a time, he walks the reader through how the various aspects of defensive and offensive counterintelligence are utilized, planned, and executed.

There are many aspects to this book to appreciate. For one, each chapter begins with a short listing of what the reader will be introduced to, but the true value is at the end of each chapter. Thoughtful study questions can be found after a short review of the key words found in the chapter. These study questions are relevant and a very nice check on learning for the reader. The work would be an excellent introductory textbook.

The final chapter of the book is on ethics. Ethics in counterintelligence cannot be overstated, and Prunckun does a fine job of laying out the importance of them in not merely a chapter on professionalism or business ethics, but through interesting points that should relate to any reader.

Prunckun demonstrates how ethics apply to a myriad of academic disciplines, as most of them can be found within the intelligence community.

This book is very readable, and contains ample pictures to demonstrate the points or structures being discussed. For instance, when discussing defensive physical security, Prunckun includes pictures of properly reinforced fences and other deterrents, while explaining the value they provide to the counterintelligence mission.

Interestingly, while Hank Prunckun's background, experience, and education is a result of Australian operational and academic institutions, he does a notable job of focusing on American counterintelligence processes while incorporating his own knowledge and experience. If you are looking for a book that presents counterintelligence as a world full of suspense and intrigue, this is not the book for you. If you are looking for a book on counterintelligence that presents a concise and applicable illustration of the profession, you will have a hard time finding a better and more suitable one.

This book, *Counterintelligence Theory and Practice*, is definitely worth buying, and at the price it is a very reasonable investment. This book should be utilized at military school houses, used for unit refresher training, incorporated into academic classes that provide instruction on counterintelligence, and read by anyone interested in the fascinating world that is counterintelligence.

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