



## IV. PROFESSIONAL INSIGHTS

### When Intelligence Made a Difference

#### Part I

With this edition of *Intelligencer*, AFIO begins a new historical project of “When Intelligence Made a Difference.” Over the millennia intelligence has often played a decisive role in world events. We know this from the writings of Sun Tzu in China and Kautilya (Chanakya) in India.<sup>1</sup>

This is a crowd sourced effort – that is, AFIO wants to enlist writers who are interested in contributing to a volume of short articles that will be useful to instructors, students, historians, and other interested readers. AFIO plans to publish accepted articles initially in *Intelligencer*, and then post them in pdf format on the AFIO website for general consumption. The full description of the effort is in the sidebar.

In Part I we have three articles related to the American Revolution. Two are contributed by AFIO’s President Emeritus **Gene Poteat**, on George Washington and the French plot to take over the American Revolution. **Peter Oleson** condensed a section of **Ken Daigler’s** book, *Spies, Patriots, and Traitors: American Intelligence in the Revolutionary War*, which addresses Washington’s use of intelligence to plan the successful attacks on Trenton and Princeton in December 1776 and January 1777. And in the fourth article, Swedish researcher **Michael Fredholm** describes how SIGINT convinced Sweden’s Prime Minister to align his country with the West after the Soviet takeover of Poland and Eastern Europe.



Readers are invited to email comments on any of these articles or to propose other topics to [peter.oleson@afio.com](mailto:peter.oleson@afio.com).

1. Sun Tzu. *The Art of War*. <https://suntzusaid.com/>. Kautilya, *The Arthashastra*. <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/india/kautilya1.asp>.

### When Intelligence Made a Difference

Intelligence History Project  
Association of Former Intelligence Officers

#### Project Description and Requirements:

The Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO) is beginning a new educational project entitled “When Intelligence Made a Difference.” AFIO invites anyone to identify events throughout history involving any nation or organization when the outcome was affected significantly by intelligence. AFIO plans to publish edited submissions serially in this print-only member magazine, *Intelligencer: Journal of US Intelligence Studies*. The publication appears two to three times a year.

If you are interested in contributing an article, please email [peter.oleson@afio.com](mailto:peter.oleson@afio.com). Briefly state what event you have in mind and include your bio. [AFIO will identify authors by name and current or former title only—no multi-line biographies.] If your suggestion is a good fit for this project, we will respond asking for your comments on that event, not to exceed 1,500 words (excluding footnotes). AFIO uses the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

**IMPORTANT:** When you send your article and bio, please let us know if you have ever had prior employment or contract work within the US Intelligence Community—and, to meet pre-publication review requirements, supply a copy of the official approval letter or email naming the article you are sending us. Without this, we are unable to consider or include your article in the publication.

As with most nonprofit academic publications, contributors will not be paid, however AFIO will publish it under the broad, pro-educational Creative Commons copyright. Therefore, authors retain the right to use their articles anywhere else they wish, after its publication in *Intelligencer*. Eight weeks after publication of your contribution in the print-only version of *Intelligencer*, the article will then appear on AFIO’s website for general public/educational access. Since the time of 1) an article’s acceptance, and then 2) appearance in print, and then 3) inclusion online can run eighteen months to three years from start-to-finish, a title-author listing of all accepted forthcoming articles (but no summaries) will be included in the printed editions of *Intelligencer*. So, it is imperative authors be patient as these articles are released on this serialized basis, in two or three journal issues per year. By submitting an article authors acknowledge and accept these provisions.

For instructors this project would make a good class assignment. Accepted articles would give students a publication credit in a recognized journal.