This product created by the Defense Security Service (DSS)
Counterintelligence Directorate

REPORTING

This pamphlet is intended to:
◆ Sensitize you to foreign intelligence services targeting and elicitation.
◆ Assist you in recognizing and countering recruitment attempts.
◆ Advise you to immediately report an incident or questionable relationship.

SUMMARY

In the espionage trade intelligence officers use elicitation as a technique to subtly extract information about you, your work, and your colleagues. Elicitation is the art of conversation honed by intelligence services to its finest edge. You never know if entities are using elicitation to pass the time or to gather intelligence.

Social networking offers almost unlimited opportunities to gather information through direct personal contact. Elicitation requires patience and persistence. Pieces of information, collected over an extended period of time, can provide the final piece of the puzzle to a complex problem or save scarce research money.

Elicitation is non-threatening. It is hard to recognize as an intelligence technique, and it is easy to deny any wrongdoing.

Elicitation
Can you recognize it?

REPORTING SUMMARY

It is your duty to report it!

Your DSS Point of Contact Is:
What is RECRUITMENT?

Recruitment is obtaining cooperation from someone to provide sensitive or classified information.

- An intelligence service typically conducts recruitment after careful assessment and patient cultivation of the target. By the time the offer to work for the foreign government or entity (the “pitch”) is made, the intelligence officer (IO) is relatively confident of the target’s willingness to cooperate.

- If the target agrees to the recruitment, that person becomes an “asset” (a spy). The IO handles the asset by clandestinely receiving the information, paying the asset, and guiding the asset in illicit collection activities.

- Money is frequently used as a recruitment tool, but there are alternate methods such as appealing to ideology, ego, revenge, blackmail, etc. Safeguard your actions and words to avoid becoming an easy target.

- Be honest with yourself about your own vulnerabilities and adjust your lifestyle to close gaps that hostile entities could exploit.

The Threat

The mainstay of most intelligence services worldwide is the recruitment of well-placed assets who can provide insightful intelligence on collection requirements. Most sensitive military and civilian jobs are of special interest to foreign intelligence services.

- Foreign intelligence services also use foreign defense industry representatives involved in business with U.S. companies to identify, assess, and approach potential recruitment targets.

- Despite the number of Americans who have initiated espionage careers on their own volition, foreign intelligence services continue to invest considerable time and resources assessing and targeting U.S. citizens for recruitment.

- Approaches are almost never made impulsively, but are actually the end result of detailed planning and thorough assessment of the target. By the time the target is asked to work for an intelligence service, the person is probably aware that a dubious relationship is developing.

Bottom Line:

Damage Potential

Indisputably, those Americans who have betrayed their country, regardless of whether they volunteered or were recruited, have caused immeasurable damage to the security of the United States. In some cases, lives were lost. In others, lives were destroyed. In all cases, lives were irreparably altered.

- Americans who have spied have betrayed a special trust to the country, to their friends and colleagues, and to their families. Despite their personal rationale for committing espionage, all had other means at their disposal for fulfilling their aspirations, needs, and desires. Most, if not all spies, eventually regret their actions and their decisions to commit espionage.

- Providing classified information to any unauthorized individual is illegal. Espionage against the U.S. government is a very serious crime punishable by imprisonment, fines, or death.

Your individual contribution to the security of your company, military branch, federal agency, and your nation is vital.