



(S//SI) NSA Intelink Blog Boosts Info-Sharing

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(S//SI) SIGINTers and Intelligence Community peers compare notes, via a blog, on a Russian crime boss.

(U//FOUO) "Blogs" have become an increasingly powerful way that information, opinions, and word of mouth spreads over the World Wide Web. Blogs are formed by people with a strong opinion and by people who have an interest in a subject and are looking for discussion and a forum to further that interest. Just what is a blog? A blog, or web log, is a web-based publication with articles, message boards, discussion threads, web links, and other content tools, which focus on a particular subject matter. They can range in scale from a personal diary to sophisticated web-based media outlets run by political campaigns, news services, or corporations.

(U//FOUO) Are blogs the way of the future for harnessing the collective power of the Intelligence Community (IC)? There are pilots in the works to explore ways to leverage this new technique to provide better intelligence products and services. Last year, a CIA employee wrote a paper [\(link\) that won the "Galileo Award" for innovation in the Intelligence Community that looks at the potential for blogs and wikis as a means to collaborate and share insight and analysis. Our very own SID leadership has encouraged us to consider the use of blogs as a means of collaboration and information sharing. \(See related article.\)](#)

(U//FOUO) Is it possible to harness the power of this technology to share information, and ensure that it does not morph into a no-holds-barred, rant-filled forum? Based on a recent experimental initiative from analysts in the International Crime and Narcotics (ICN) Product Line, the answer appears to be "yes."

(S//SI) To test the utility of this technology for collaboration, ICN has created an [Intelink blog on Russian organized crime](#). This blog is focused on the U.S. government's top Russian organized crime target, Semyon Mogilevich. [REDACTED], a senior ICN analyst and expert on Russian Organized crime, manages the content of the blog, which includes links to Mogilevich-related reporting from CIA, FBI and State. There's also a Working Aids/Reference Materials section of the blog which includes an organized crime website, a video, Power Point presentation, charts, and significant documents useful to all IC analysts and customers following the Mogilevich target.

[REDACTED]

(U//FOUO) Semyon Mogilevich

(S//SI) An NSA report currently on the blog documents all known bank accounts associated with Mogilevich. ICN is working with S1 Reporting Policy and Guidance to create a "dynamic report" permitting updates to that report directly on the blog in place of issuing new reporting each time additional accounts numbers are detected.* All of these features improve information sharing regarding this major Russian organized crime target.

(S//SI) So far, over 20 analysts from across the intelligence community have signed up for this blog. At this stage, the blog is more of a reference tool and "one stop shopping" for information on this notorious crime figure, than a collaborative forum, but there have been some signs that analysts are willing to use the blog as they become more comfortable operating in this environment.

(U//FOUO) If you are interested in establishing a similar space on Intelink for you IC community

of interest, it is a relatively easy process. Please see the [Intelink Blogs User Guide webpage](#) for more information, or contact [REDACTED] [REDACTED] nsa) o [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@nsa).

*Note:

(U//FOUO) If you have questions regarding blog-related reporting policy, contact [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]@nsa). Also, for further information on information-sharing policies, see [USSID CR1611\(P\)](#) "(U) SIGINT Dissemination for Analytic Collaboration " and the Collaboration Record Procedures, accessible via the [A&P Information Sharing webpage](#). We are still learning from the use of this technology; NSA policy specifically addressing the use of wikis and blogs is under development.

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