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One big flaw revealed by 9/11 was the lack of cooperation American spy agencies. It's still a sore point.

By Michael Hirsh and Mark Hosenball
Newsweek

April 5, 2004 issue - How prepared is America for the next 9/11? The Bush administration's response to the U.S. intelligence and law-enforcement agencies' failure to communicate is the Terrorist Threat Integration Center. Launched last May, TTIC is an independent body manned with analysts from more than a dozen agencies, including the CIA, FBI, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the National Security Agency, the Coast Guard, Homeland Security and the Secret Service. Each day TTIC analysts are supposed to share whatever they hear about potential threats and produce a report that goes to the White House, Pentagon and other major "customers."

But critics from inside the intelligence community advertisement complain that, even now, everything the various agencies learn is not being shared. The problem, they say, is that the CIA and other agencies still don't play well with others. "The whole bureaucracy is against TTIC," says one CIA analyst. "They've got the long knives out for it."

 NEWSWEEK RADIO | 3/28/04

9/11: Clarke and the Commission I
Evan Thomas, NEWSWEEK Assistant Managing Editor, and **Mel Goodman**, former CIA analyst, Senior Fellow Director for the National Security Program, and Center for International Policy, author of "Bush League Diplomacy," contributor to film,

One reason: the unwillingness of the CIA's own main branches to pass on some



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CIA's Operations Division, otherwise known as the "Clandestine Service," is said to be reluctant to surrender its most tightly held information, principally for fear of compromising the identity of its sources. There is also a degree of bureaucratic jealousy of the CIA's Directorate of Intelligence. "When 'customers' are being briefed by CIA in the morning, the briefer will give them the TTIC stuff," says the CIA analyst. "Then he'll say, 'But here's better stuff from our counterterrorism center'." Some CIA officials are also resisting a transfer of the agency's top-secret bin Laden unit to TTIC.

TTIC is run by John Brennan, a senior CIA official who tries to pull together threat intel from all U.S. agencies at a secure vault at Langley (in May, TTIC will move to its own building at an undisclosed location in the Washington area). In an interview, Brennan acknowledged that TTIC is having teething problems. But he told NEWSWEEK he has been given "unparalleled access" to 14 networks of classified information as well as sensitive databases. "There has never been a case when I need information that we haven't been able to get it," he said.

APRIL 5, 2004 ISSUE: THE 9/11 COMMISSION

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measures or legal privacy restrictions. Also, TTIC does not have its own staff of translators who can work on original source documents or listen to the actual conversations of intelligence targets. Brennan says he does not want TTIC to duplicate work done by foreign-language experts at other intelligence agencies.

Another problem is that draconian security rules still hamper the new center from feeding hot intel tips quickly to people in the field who need them, like U.S. soldiers or intelligence teams hunting terrorists overseas. Brennan says that TTIC is now putting some

of their most important secrets or their best analysts to TTIC. The



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of its best—and most useful—material into a top-secret Web site called TTIC Online. The database contains 3.5 million documents and can be accessed by more than 2,600 people domestically and overseas. Other improvements are on the way: the FBI is sending over 70 additional analysts. But some critics say TTIC's problems are still so serious that it may need a presidential shake-up.

With John Barry

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