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**On The Armada Bookshelf**  
**You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger**  
**Roger Hall**  
Bluejacket Books / US Naval Institute Press



The ultra-secret Office of Strategic Services (OSS), conceived during World War II, was the precursor to the CIA. As a young organisation, many operations, training bases and logistical elements were being designed and structured on a day-by-day basis. It is this type of disorganisation that forms the basis of the book; providing Roger Hall the impetus to explain and excuse his way through his tour with the agency. As the title suggests, this is a not-so-serious look at the teething problems and growing pains of a very serious and highly capable organisation – one that trained and supplied many of France's resistance fighters and lead a section of a Norwegian special operations group into Norway to wreak havoc with the German troops occupying the area. This book provides insight into the Office of Strategic Services as seen through the eyes of an American Army officer who weathered rigorous training in the US, England and Scotland, struggling between the sounds of weapons, parachutes and whiskey glasses, to become one of the agency's most respected and in-demand instructors. The author presents this humorously unofficial look at the OSS with such candour and light heartedness that the reader is left in stitches, laughing at the near slapstick history and turn of events that characterised Roger Halls' 'tour of duty'. One shining example arises when, during his training in Philadelphia, Hall was tasked to infiltrate a circuit breaker plant pretending to be a wounded soldier looking for work. The vice president was so impressed with his presentation than he not only hired him and invited him to take his daughter on a date, but invited Hall to speak at the company's war bond rally. A could-blow-your-cover type of situation destined to ruffle even the most seasoned agent's cloak.

You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger was first published in 1957 and was reprinted in April 2004 by the US Naval Institute Press' Bluejacket Books division, which provides paperback editions of "exceptional works on naval and military subjects".

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