

Douglas Farah is senior non-resident associate at the Americas Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and since January 2005 has been the president of IBI Consultants. LLC. Farah specializes in research, writing and training on transnational criminal organizations and armed groups and their affects on states and corruption; terrorism, terror finance and proliferation; and, illicit financial flows, with a particular focus on the Western Hemisphere, Africa and globalized networks.

A veteran investigator with more than 25 years experience, Farah is a consultant on these and related issues to several U.S. government departments, agencies, combatant commands and leading academic centers in the US and abroad. He has also worked with the World Bank, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, National Endowment for Democracy, US Peace Institute and others.

Farah has testified numerous times before Congress and appears regularly in the national and international media.

In 1985, after graduating with honors from the University of Kansas (B.A. in Latin American Studies and a B.S. in Journalism), he was named UPI bureau chief in El Salvador, covering the civil war there. In 1988 he won the Sigma Delta Chi Distinguished Service Award for Foreign Correspondence for a Washington Post series on right-wing death squads in El Salvador.

In 1992, Farah was named bureau chief for the *Washington Post's* as a Central American and the Caribbean bureau where, until 1997, he covered the drug wars in Colombia, Haiti and Cuba, among other issues. From 1997 to 2000, Farah took on broader responsibilities at the *Post* as an international investigative reporter covering drug trafficking and organized crime, In 2000, Farah again resumed the role of *Post* bureau chief, this time for West Africa, and was based in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. After breaking the story of al Qaeda's ties to "blood diamonds" and Liberia's Charles Taylor, death threats compelled Farah to leave Africa in 2003. He remained with the *Washington Post* until early 2004 investigating radical Islamic groups and terror finance.

Farah is the author of Blood from Stones: The Secret Financial Network of Terror (2004) and Merchant of Death: Money, Guns, Planes and the Man who Makes War Possible. (2007).