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Subject: Qualifications to provide special mission interrogation consultation

1. Below is a list of the experiences relevant to my qualifications for providing psychological consultation to interrogation programs.

As of February 2003,

- Conducted HVT interrogations and debriefs
  - o Estimate: Over 550 hours of direct experience (hut-time) interrogating or debriefing known terrorists
  - o Approximately two-thirds of that time use of enhanced measures was authorized
- Conducted pre-interrogation psychological assessments for HVT's
- Developed HVT interrogation plans
- Provided psychological consultation to interrogation teams working with HVT's; observed the effectiveness of various interrogation approaches, including the application of enhanced measures applied by other interrogators, made recommendations about how to improve the effectiveness of interrogation efforts
  - o Estimate: 1792 hours observing the HVT interrogation process
- 13 years experience with resistance to interrogation training (seven years full time at USAF Survival School)
  - o Debriefed POW's on psychological aspects of resistance to interrogation, studied which methods worked and which didn't, incorporated lessons learned into USAF Code of Conduct training
  - o Over 14,000 hours of direct experience providing and directing psychological monitoring of emotionally volatile resistance to interrogation laboratory exercises employing enhanced measures
    - Observed literally hundreds of instructor/interrogators apply enhanced measures
      - My job was to note what went wrong, what made things go wrong, and what could be done to prevent similar problems in the future
      - Big component was to monitor and directly intervene to prevent escalating "drift" in the frequency, intensity, and duration in the use of enhanced measures that could lead to increase risk of lasting mental or physical harm
    - Observed literally thousands of people of varied intellect and job assignments attempt to be deceptive and hold back intelligence information during the use of enhanced pressures. In other words, I've observed literally thousands trained and untrained people

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trying to lie about intelligence information under conditions that involve the use of coercive psychological and physical pressures, but favor the resister

- Observed people try to be deceptive before they were trained to resist, and then watched those same people apply their resistance training.
- Observed a select set of the same individuals being interrogated several times over a period of years
- In this setting, part of my job was put together interrogation plans that were as realistic as possible and
  - Used enhanced measures to challenge the will to resist in people who were too cocky, or
  - Used enhanced measures to strengthen an overwhelmed person's will to resist
  - Without producing lasting mental or physical harm
- Conducted in excess of 215 post resistance training psychological debriefs for groups ranging from 120 people to 10 covering psychological reactions to captivity and interrogation using enhanced measures
- Worked to develop strategies for resisting sexual exploitation as an interrogation tool, media exploitation, and resistance to interrogation strategies for women for use at the USAF Survival School; worked with JPRA Director of Psychology to develop DOD wide policies for same
- Experience as shift supervisor during resistance to interrogation training
- Developed, implemented and supervised monitoring programs designed to reduce the risk of mental and physical harm during interrogations using physical and mental coercion
  - Spearheaded survival school program to increase realism while reducing risk of physical harm
    - Studied injury types and rates associated with using enhanced measures
    - Identified which measures had the desired effect while reducing the risk of lasting mental or physical harm
    - Devised plan to implement their use; briefed the three and four star Generals that ran Air Education and Training Command; worked with JPRA and senior survival school instructors to put together an advanced instructor training course on the use of enhanced measures, taught portions of the course, and then monitored the use of revised measures in subsequent resistance to interrogation laboratory exercises
  - Worked literally hundreds of critical incidents and made numerous tweaks in the way enhanced measures were applied during training
  - Conducted specialized interrogation rounds during special survival training

<sup>1</sup> For example, in just one year (September 1992 - September 1993) out of the 7 years I was at the survival school, I worked with 133 people who were emotionally overwhelmed by the use of enhanced measures in resistance to interrogation training. I estimate similar numbers for the remaining six years I was there.

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- Conducted interrogation and exploitation activities during USAF mission readiness test (Air crews were captured and interrogated in a non-training environment to evaluate the effectiveness of their resistance training)
- Studied, written and lectured on the social influence and self-persuasion mechanisms that turn ordinary people into terrorists
- Studied, written and lectured on the psychological aspects of interrogation and resistance to interrogation
- Studied, written and lectured on the use of coercive psychological and physical pressures during interrogations and resistance to interrogation training
- Received interrogation training from [REDACTED] (This happened at JPRA SERE Psychology Conferences. The first was a one day lecture course, which was well received, so they came back and gave a multi-day course with laboratory)
- Extensive experience questioning hostile, deceptive subjects for psychological profiling, forensic assessments, sanity evaluations, suitability for continued duty assessments, and security evaluations for individuals who had committed a variety of criminal offenses including: murder, sexual assault, kidnapping, aggravated assault, hate crimes, physical child abuse, child sexual assault, theft and malingering
- Received conventional and special mission resistance to interrogation training
- Experienced as a crisis negotiator (handled barricaded gunman, numerous suicidal individuals, de-escalated combative and delusional people)
- Developed a hostage survival and resistance course for civilian applications
- Psychologist since 1986
- Licensed to practice independently
- Certified as Department of Defense SERE Psychologist

## 2. Summary:

Interrogation and exploitation are primarily about producing a mental state that facilitates obtaining desired intelligence information. That mental state will be different for each person depending on circumstances, abilities, past experiences and temperament. Enhanced measures are used only in service of producing the appropriate mental state. Sometimes the appropriate mental state is fear, sometimes it's learned helplessness, sometimes it's compliancy, sometimes it's an affinity for the exploiter, sometimes it's a sense of false hope, etc. The appropriate mental state varies. Being able to read the person being exploited and craft the desired mental state is critical to the success of the mission. Being able to recognize when enhanced measures are going too far, reduces the risk of producing prolonged and profound mental harm.

- Being a psychologist has taught me about mental states
- Advanced study and experience has taught me about the mental states relevant to interrogation and exploitation
- Observing trained and untrained people try to use resistance techniques to protect intelligence information has taught me recognize when sophisticated resistance techniques are being used

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