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## CIA's Use of Contract Interrogators/Debriefers

(TS/ [REDACTED] /NF) From the inception of CIA's Rendition and Detention Program, contract interrogators have been a key component in the Agency's Global War on Terrorism. Early on, it was clear that the CIA's exploitation program would place a high demand on the limited availability of experienced NCS Core Collectors. In addition, the trained and experienced pool of experts required to carry out the exploitation mission did not reside in the Agency nor was it considered part of the Agency's core mission. Interrogation and Exploitation skills [REDACTED] require years to develop and mature to be utilized effectively. Furthermore, staff officers routinely change assignments every 2-3 years, which does not allow for either adequate training or the long-term development of required expertise. Consequently, as was pointed out in an independent Program Review conducted by senior level Agency officers, utilizing highly trained and experienced contract interrogators, under the direct supervision and oversight of Agency staff, allows for the most effective use of key interrogation skills, as well as allow core collectors to focus more readily on the counter-terrorism mission. Hence, we plan to continue identifying and hiring contractors with the requisite skills, knowledge, and experience to further enhance the Program.

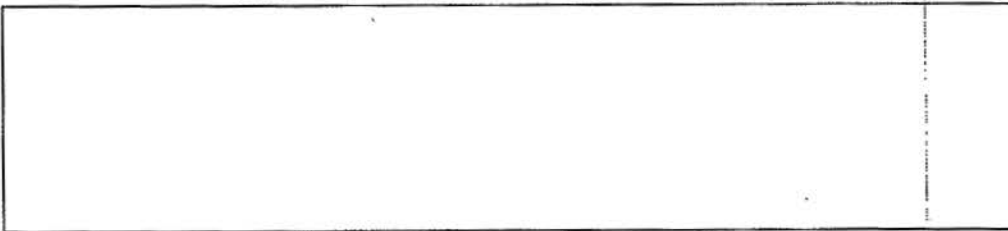
(TS/ [REDACTED] /NF) [REDACTED] The Debriefing training program was developed and first run in June 2003 after it became clear that a formal training program was required to develop these particular skills and expertise. As the number of detainees grew, it increased the responsibility of debriefers to handle more of the day to day interaction with the detainees. In order to do this successfully, we incorporated what was learned from previous interaction with detainees and built a course of instruction to include a basic understanding of Debriefers/Detainee interaction, roles and responsibilities of the interrogation team, legal guidelines, reporting issues, and role playing using actual examples of debriefings that worked well and those that did not. [REDACTED] To date, we have trained [REDACTED] staff and contract officers from all CTC components, with approximately 80% of these staff. However, most of the staff officers have moved on to different assignments and are no longer available. As of this writing, there are circa [REDACTED] trained staff and contract debriefers in CTC but the staff officers also have other fulltime responsibilities [REDACTED] that makes their availability to travel for [REDACTED] on short notice very difficult. Hence, we rely on the small contractor cadre that is available 24/7 to serve as debriefers for the majority of [REDACTED] debriefing requirements.

(TS/ [REDACTED] /NF) To date, CTC [REDACTED] has trained [REDACTED] interrogators [REDACTED] of which were Staff employees and [REDACTED] were contractors. Currently, as the result of reassignment and self-selection out of the Program for various reasons, there are [REDACTED] active and available contract Interrogators and an additional [REDACTED] contractors who are trained and qualified but are assigned to other requirements. [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] contractors are considered Senior Interrogators and the other [REDACTED] are Trained and Qualified but not yet certified. Of the [REDACTED] staff contractors only [REDACTED] remain available to the program but also require certification.

(TS/ [REDACTED] /NF) Interrogators are recognized as "Trained and Qualified", upon successful completion of the CTC [REDACTED] High Value Detainee Interrogators (HVDI) training course and subsequent approval by [REDACTED] and Senior HVDI Instructors' recommendation that the candidate has successfully demonstrated their ability to be a High Value Detainee Interrogator (HVDI). [REDACTED]

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(TS/[REDACTED]/NF) Before 11 September, 2001, the Agency had no resident expertise in Interrogation and CTC sought the required skills from other pertinent organizations. The Agency's Office of Technical Service [REDACTED] identified two contract PhD. Clinical Psychologists, both certified Senior HVDI Instructors and Interrogators in creating the Interrogation Program as well as continued training and education. The two Clinical Psychologists developed the first SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance & Escape) Psychologists Standards and the first Certification Course for the U.S. Air Force while serving in the military. In addition, they provided all the initial SERE psychology training for the military and served as the model for all future SERE psychologists. Combined, they have over 38 years experience in this area and have demonstrated the expertise to assist in the development of psychological assessments tools in the areas of framing exploitation questions, detecting deception along with CI issues for individuals not under our control and whose cooperation and veracity is yet to be determined. In addition, we identified a retired [REDACTED] as well as a retired [REDACTED]. They all bring a synergistic approach to the Program.

(TS/[REDACTED]/NF) Since neither a Program nor the required expertise were available, CTC [REDACTED] developed a "road map" required to stand-up a viable program to include screening, training, the understanding of legal issues, documentation, management, and oversight. The team of Senior HVDI Instructor used their previous experience and expertise to train Interrogator Candidates in the psychological aspects of an interrogation as well as the training in and compliance with the approved physical measures adopted from SERE instruction. With respect to the physical measures (EIT), the Program was based on the principle of "using the least coercive measures first" to achieve compliance and cooperation.

(TS/[REDACTED]/NF) As the result of the Detainee Treatment Act, Comon Article 3 and the Military Commission Act of October 2006, the use of EITs is currently on hold pending a review by DOJ. Even though we are awaiting the updated DOJ opinion, the Senior HVDI Instructor Team is diligently working to develop a variety of psychological techniques to assist in exploitation and, pending DOJ's approval, employ the approved EITs only when compliance and cooperation cannot be achieved without the use coercive measures as approved by Hqs.

(TS/[REDACTED]/NF) The overall responsibility for the management of the OCONUS site, site staff to include contract security specialists, contract linguists and debriefers, Interrogation Team, and the detainees resides with the Staff Site Program Manager. The Site Program Manger must ensure that all site staff and contractor support comply with all HQS regulations, legal guidelines, site and [REDACTED] SOPs. Although Agency contractors lead and conduct the interrogations, they are constantly monitored to ensure compliance with all policies and procedures and the Site Program Manager provides Hqs with detailed correspondence on both a regular and on an as needed basis.

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