

Availability of [] Psychologist Jim Mitchell/ Role of Mitchell and Jesson

From: []
 To: []
 Cc: []
 Bcc: []
 Subject: Availability of [] Psychologist Jim Mitchell/ Role of Mitchell and Jesson
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Jim called me yesterday to note that he was available to deploy for us from [] to []. Per my discussions with Jim and Bruce last week, their roles in the program are going to change. From now on they will be doing mostly strategic consulting work, research and program development projects, and the [] psychology role. They are willing to interrogate, mentor, give presentations, or whatever as needed, but they now believe we have enough interrogators to go forward and need them much less in the interrogation role, if at all. This enables us to fully exploit their skill sets and to get more bang for our buck with them. They are pleased and are eager to help us out as needed.

I spent a good part of an afternoon with Bruce and Jim talking about the end-game, as well as follow-on training requirements, facilities design, and various program plans, etc. They were extremely helpful and insightful, and both regret any hard feelings that have developed over time and want to move. They are going to stay closely engaged in the program for the foreseeable future, which I am pleased about. I am drafting an advance work plan for them so that we and they will know what they are going to do, when, and how.

One of the first projects I asked them to take on was to help us prepare the HVTs--beginning with AZ--for the transition to the end-game. They were delighted to hear that we are planning along these lines, offered their full support, and are eager to pitch in. Specifically, I asked them to work with AZ at []--beginning in mid-to-late []

[]
 [] Bruce and Jim are naturals for this task: they know AZ best and have the psychological expertise []

With the AZ transition as our learning study, Bruce and Jim also will be able to lay out a general set of psychological, physical, medical, occupational, recreational, and operational requirements--we can then use as a frame of reference in transitioning the HVTs to the end game. While each HVT will be different, we must do everything possible to establish best practices right away to handle what will be a continuing CIA mission in the war on terrorism. (FYI: Just spoke with Jim and he is preparing to come out week of [] He'll come by here first for a couple days to read up and chat with us.)

A second project, which they are writing a proposal for, is to study how we can develop and apply even less-intrusive techniques without any loss in the interrogation's psychological impact. They believe this can be done and we have much to gain by asking them to try. They will draft a paper outlining the process and, pending our approval, we will field test it.

In view of their experience and backgrounds, I offered them the opportunity to present on psychological topics to the debriefing and interrogation courses. They are also willing to attend a running of each course as participants. Both will be here on [] to meet with us on the training facility design.
 Cheers, []