DATE: 30 JAN 03

TO:

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - APPROVAL PROCESS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

TOT: 3018352 JAN 03 DIRECTOR

~~TOP SECRET~~

3018352 DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: EYES ONLY - APPROVAL PROCESS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

REF: NONE

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: FOR THE RECORD.

2. THE USE OF ENHANCED INTERROGATION TECHNIQUES NECESSARILY REQUIRES THAT A PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF RECORD BE COMPLETED ABOUT THE PROPOSED SUBJECT BEFORE SUCH TECHNIQUES MAY BE AUTHORIZED, AND THAT CONTINUING PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERROGATION ASSESSMENTS BE MADE THROUGHOUT THE DETENTION AND INTERROGATION PROCESSES. AS A MATTER OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, THE

PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERROGATION ASSESSMENT OF RECORD MAY BE (A) A "DIRECT ASSESSMENT OF RECORD," WHICH IS BASED UPON PERSONAL EXAMINATION BY A QUALIFIED STAFF SPECIAL MISSION PSYCHOLOGIST, OR (B) AN "INDIRECT ASSESSMENT OF RECORD," WHICH IS BASED UPON THE REVIEW AND ANALYSIS BY A QUALIFIED STAFF SPECIAL MISSION PSYCHOLOGIST OF A PERSONAL EXAMINATION THAT HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY ANOTHER QUALIFIED STAFF OR IC SPECIAL MISSION PSYCHOLOGIST. (AN INDIRECT PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF RECORD NORMALLY IS PERFORMED FOLLOWING AN INITIAL PERSONAL EXAMINATION, AND MAY BE BASED UPON THE ANALYSIS OF DATA PROVIDED BY OTHER PSYCHOLOGISTS OR BY NON-PSYCHOLOGISTS SO LONG AS THE QUALIFIED STAFF SPECIAL MISSIONS PSYCHOLOGIST DETERMINES THAT THE DATA ARE SUFFICIENTLY RELIABLE.)

3. SEVERAL OF THE PERSONNEL CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN THE INTERROGATION PROCESSES ARE BOTH PSYCHOLOGISTS AND APPROVED INTERROGATORS. ADDITIONALLY, SOME OF THE PSYCHOLOGISTS ARE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS RATHER THAN STAFF EMPLOYEES.

-- IT HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE PRACTICE THAT THE INDIVIDUAL AT THE INTERROGATION SITE WHO ADMINISTERS THE TECHNIQUES IS NOT THE SAME PERSON WHO ISSUES THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF RECORD. INDEED, THE PSYCHOLOGIST WHO ISSUES THE ASSESSMENT OF RECORD, WHETHER HE OR SHE IS COLLOCATED IN THE FIELD OR AT HEADQUARTERS, MAY TAKE A DIFFERENT VIEW FROM THAT SUBMITTED BY THE FIELD OR MAY DISAPPROVE THE FIELD ASSESSMENT ALTOGETHER.

- ADDITIONALLY, IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE GUIDANCE FROM THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF CORE GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES, IT HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE PRACTICE THAT ONLY A STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST MAY ISSUE THE ASSESSMENT OF RECORD.

4. FYI: NEWLY APPROVED DCI GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF INTERROGATIONS, WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED VIA SEPARATE CABLE, REQUIRE THAT WE REVISIT THE STAFFING LEVELS IN THE FIELD WHEN ENHANCED MEASURES ARE TO BE USED. UNDER THOSE GUIDELINES, WE WILL NEED TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE SPECIAL MISSION PSYCHOLOGIST PRESENT AT THE SITE DURING THE USE OF ENHANCED TECHNIQUES WHO IS NOT HIM/HERSELF PHYSICALLY PARTICIPATING IN THEIR ADMINISTRATION IN ORDER TO MONITOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION OF THE SUBJECT.

5. IN THIS RESPECT, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT STAFF AND IC PSYCHOLOGISTS WHO ARE APPROVED INTERROGATORS MAY CONTINUE TO SERVE AS INTERROGATORS AND PHYSICALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF ENHANCED TECHNIQUES, SO LONG AS AT LEAST ONE OTHER PSYCHOLOGIST IS PRESENT WHO IS NOT ALSO SERVING AS AN INTERROGATOR, AND THE APPROPRIATE PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERROGATION ASSESSMENT OF RECORD HAS BEEN COMPLETED. (IF THE NON-INTERROGATING PSYCHOLOGIST IS NOT A STAFF EMPLOYEE, THEN THAT INDIVIDUAL WILL NEED TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH A HQS OR FIELD QUALIFIED STAFF SPECIAL MISSIONS

PSYCHOLOGIST WHO WILL PROVIDE THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS OF RECORD.)

END OF MESSAGE ~~TOP SECRET~~