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□ JANUARY 31, 2017

(U) Message from the Director: Thanks for a Great First Week

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I want to offer my gratitude to all of you for what has been an amazing and enlightening first week on the job. As I walked through the Headquarters lobby for the first time as Director, I felt energized and eager to take on the opportunity of a lifetime. And after only a few days here at Langley, I've seen why CIA is a national treasure.

Our clandestine operations are bold and carried out with great skill. Our analysis is clear, accurate, and insightful. Our scientific and technological programs provide an invaluable edge over our adversaries. Our support work is unmatched in its agility and dedication. And our achievements on the digital frontier are cutting-edge.

But what I've found most remarkable is the passion with which you pursue our mission. I've always believed that attitude matters deeply. If this first week is any indication, we are definitely on the right track. The positive energy you bring to your work is inspiring.

Already, I've received excellent suggestions about how we can further sharpen our focus and improve the value we offer our country. I've heard how, as an Agency with a global mission, we have to keep working toward greater diversity and inclusion throughout our ranks. In the weeks and months ahead, I look forward to learning more about these important efforts and how I can best offer my support.

On all matters affecting the Agency, I want to engage directly with the workforce as much as possible. I'll make it a priority to visit your offices and travel to our Stations and Bases. Ground truth is something I need to hear because I have to know what's working and what's not. It's as simple as that.

I promise to fiercely defend our Agency. I'll speak truth to those who ask for it and even those who don't. That is one of

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my top duties as Director, and it's my solemn promise to you.

We face dangerous enemies in the world. Our fellow citizens are counting on us to keep our policymakers informed and our country safe. And we will be fearless and aggressive in the pursuit of our mission.

During the past week, I had several opportunities to meet with POTUS and can assure you that CIA's insights are highly valued and will continue to be relied upon by the President and his National Security team.

I still can't believe my luck and feel humbled by this opportunity to become part of CIA's storied and distinguished history. Thank you again for your warm welcome and strong support during what has been a truly unforgettable week.

Mike

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FILED UNDER: 2017, JANUARY - 2017, OPA NOTICES

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