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**REPRESENTATIVE STUDENT COMMENTS ON THE SPECIAL
OPERATIONS FAMILIARIZATION COURSE FOR DD/S&T**

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....I was most impressed with the superlative job turned in by [REDACTED]. Everything was beautifully arranged, and carried out with dedication to his job and with a friendly, personable approach to the members of the class. The program content, incidentally, was thoughtfully chosen, and I believe the guest speakers were the finest collection possible.

....The subject course was easily the most interesting and best managed course I have attended since joining CIA. It was apparent that the speakers, particularly those in the Soviet and counter intelligence areas, had many years of valuable experience in the field and were well qualified to discuss covert operations. Their summaries of operations in which they were personally involved were particularly interesting and enlightening.

....The informal sessions with the speakers during coffee breaks and after class were quite beneficial for exploring certain points that were too specific for general class discussion.

....This was probably the most interesting course I have attended since coming into the Agency. After seventeen years with the Agency, I feel that I finally know something about the DDP side of the house. This is the kind of course that new employees would also find very profitable.

....The course was absolutely superb in every respect. The presentations were by the "first team" and were designed to portray both the capabilities and the problems of the clandestine services in meeting DDS&T collection requirements. Discussions were open and frank with no attempt at either whitewashing or gilding the lily. I was immensely impressed by the professionalism of the DDP as reflected by the speakers, particularly on the Soviet side of the house.

....Attendance should be a must for all DDS&T professional employees who have not been exposed to a course in DDP capabilities and limitations in the collection of scientific and technical intelligence.

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....The course was conducted very well and the arrangements were all carefully set up. There was the right balance of informality and attention to business. The course achieved the planned objectives in my view. Not only were matters of methods philosophy and operational constraints covered, but sufficient detail was given of agent handling, commo methods, Soviet and Chicom activities so that a most useful picture evolved of CS operations for a person such as myself who is based in ORD.

....In general the course was divided into two parts. The first part of the week was devoted to basic clandestine activities. This was useful for introducing concepts which were reinforced during the more operational aspects of the second part of the course. The brief period of time allotted to each speaker forced him in many cases to cover only the general concepts of his subject; however, he was always available at a coffee break or after the lecture to discuss individual or group problems. The operational aspects mentioned above included case histories and collection problems which were directly related to S&T intelligence problems. The outstanding feature of this part of the program was that the case officers, who were directly involved in these cases, gave the presentations and added their personal experiences to the documented evidence. It is difficult to commend particular speakers since the majority were outstanding, but the two lecturers which stood out were [REDACTED] who discussed counter intelligence and [REDACTED] who discussed Soviet intelligence services.

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....In general, the course accomplished its purpose as outlined. It was extremely interesting and well presented. [REDACTED] who was in charge of the course, shared his wealth of experience and knowledge of DDP activities to answer questions from our group during informal evening sessions. This course appeared to be one of the initial steps to bridging the gap between the clandestine services and DDS&T. This better understanding of DDP's capabilities and problems should enable the analyst to write more meaningful requirements in order to facilitate the collection effort.

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....The primary purpose of this special orientation course was to acquaint S&T personnel with the history and structure, problems and views of the DDP. The course succeeded in its purpose. The session speakers were, without exception,

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outstanding. The topics the speakers addressed themselves to were well selected and the material presented was interesting and consistently revealing. The unaffected prevailing atmosphere, the surroundings, and the informal get-togethers during and after the sessions were conducive and essential to the fulfillment of the course objectives.

....The benefit derived from the course is an overall but fairly comprehensive summary of both clandestine activities and their mechanisms of operation. This knowledge is particularly useful in the formulation of requirements which are practical and thereby stand a good chance of fulfillment.

....I feel that the subject course was quite worthwhile. It gave an insight into the manifold problems that DDP faces in gathering information. This lesson will be remembered when writing requirements on DDP. I would recommend that the course be continued so that each DDS&T analyst be given the opportunity to attend.

....The subject course was excellent, particularly in the scope, content, organization and presentation of the subject material. Having had little knowledge of the clandestine operations aspects of intelligence collection, this course at the very least has provided insight as to the real problems involved in clandestine S&T intelligence collection which will be valuable for future requirements preparation and analysis.

....The surroundings and atmosphere in which the course was conducted and the personal contact with the instructors, particularly that with [REDACTED] were conducive to continued discussion and increased interest in the subject. I recommend that the course be continued.

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....Well organized, expertly handled by [REDACTED] and class members felt we were hearing the First Team.

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... [REDACTED] presentation was extremely interesting, entertaining, and provocative.

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....Speakers commanded complete attention of audience for entire course. Informal surroundings were conducive to valuable interchanges between the students and the teachers and among the students.

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....All speakers were of unusually high quality but most outstanding were:

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[REDACTED]

- Case Histories, Clandestine Communications
- Counter Intelligence
- Soviet Services

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... [REDACTED] Chief Instructor, merits commendation for his organization of the course, his procurement of extremely well qualified speakers for presentation of the material, and for those talks he presented himself in a most capable manner. The smooth operation of the course shows the careful preparation by [REDACTED] the high level of interest throughout shown by the class shows its appreciation both for the effort by [REDACTED] and the material presented so capably by the various speakers.

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....With so many capable men talking, it is difficult to single out any for special excellence. Two -- [REDACTED] -- gave presentations that were high points in the course, both from the substantive nature of the material presented and the understanding of operations provided.

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....This most informative course gave me a good understanding of the problems involved in clandestine operations. Mr. [REDACTED] is to be commended for his excellent handling of the course and for his selection of guest speakers who were outstanding. I was particularly impressed by the counter intelligence presentation. I highly recommend this course be continued, and that every professional involved in any way with requirements be given the opportunity to attend.

....The course was well organized and was extremely interesting and enlightening to me. The last three days, which covered specific examples of clandestine activities, were more interesting than the first two days, which covered more broadly some rules of "tradecraft."

....The excellent manner in which the course was planned and presented reflected the considerable competence of [REDACTED] as an instructor.

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....This is a note of appreciation for the outstanding course given for DDS&T by OTR. In particular, the fine organization and informal presentation by the fine case officers available made the course a very worthwhile exposure to effective intelligence activity. [REDACTED] was especially effective in introducing and conducting the course.

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