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The Director of Central Intelligence

ARMY Reviews Completed

Washington, D.C. 20505

LIA-4
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Intelligence Community Staff

DCI/ICS 82-4277
25 October 1982

29 OCT 1982

Dr. Louis M. Cameron
Director, Night Vision and
Electro-Optics Laboratory
Fort Belvoir, VA

Dear Lou:

My associates and I certainly appreciated and enjoyed our visit to NVEOL. The briefings and demonstrations clearly illustrate, on the one hand, the importance of collecting low-power laser threat data and on the other hand, the unusual, if not unique, problems associated with such a collection.

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Obviously, the basic technical characteristics and consequent operational employment of laser-based weapons dictate a very restrictive collection geometry demanding close physical proximity, but the likely sites where such weapons would be tested unfortunately lie in denied areas where any access is extremely difficult to achieve. Thus, a maximum of resolve coupled with extremely careful planning (as well as a hefty sprinkling of good fortune) is going to be required.

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Your suggestion that the new secure NVEOL laser test range be used for both collection system performance validation as well as operational training is excellent and will surely be recognized by the Community as a convenient and practical mechanism for developing the absolutely essential assurance that the next collection initiative will succeed.

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As soon as the test range and the collection devices are ready for preliminary demonstration, the ICS will assist you in sponsoring a meeting of the WSSIC group preparing the low-power laser collection support brief, the IR&DC laser panel, and appropriate representatives from CIA's Operations and Science and Technology Directorates, INSCOM, and the Intelligence Community Staff. Your demonstration and the subsequent information exchange should contribute substantially to achieving a fuller understanding of this complex problem and lead the way toward a realistic collection strategy.

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I have discussed these steps with [redacted] who endorses this plan of attack. I will be in touch in the near future to discuss further details.

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[redacted]

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Best regards,

[redacted signature]

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Director, Office of Planning

c.c.: MG B. Stubblebine, Cmdr, INSCOM

[redacted]

D/OHC

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Ltr from D/OP to Dr. Louis M. Cameron, Director, Night Vision and
Electro-Optics Laboratory, Ft. Belvoir, VA

Distribution: (DCI/ICS 82-4277)

- 1 - Addressee
- 1 - MG B. Stubblebine, Cmdr, INSCOM
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- 1 - OP Subject

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DCI/ICS/OP [redacted] (25 October 1982)

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