CONFIDENTIAL

7 January 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: APEX Steering Group Members

25X1   FROM: _____
                  Chairman

SUBJECT: APEX--Emphasis During Transition

1. On 6 January 1981 the APEX Steering Group agreed on a list of actions that require emphasis during the transition period in order to maintain some momentum towards improvement in the operation of special access systems. Two considerations weighed heavily in drafting the list:

    --   Near unanimity among APEX Steering Group members on the need to take the action in the very near future or to continue that which is in progress.

    --   Near unanimity that the action is desired by most or all of the agencies or departments represented on the APEX Steering
25X1   Group. [ ]

2. Please make this list known to those persons in your agency or department who can direct or encourage accomplishment of the listed actions. The purpose of the list, again, is to ensure continuing action on and ongoing support for non-controversial actions that the APEX Steering Group collectively holds to require either continuing
25X1   support or early decisions. [ ]   25X1

Attachment

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WHEN ATTACHMENT REMOVED

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ACTIONS REQUIRING CONTINUING SUPPORT AND ATTENTION FOR SCI DURING TRANSITION

A. Reaffirm support to fund and build a Community-wide Special Access Registry (4C);

B. Continue expansion of decompartmentation of imagery; how far to expand is a current APEX issue;

C. Continue process of decompartmentation of ELINT;

D. Continue the process, primarily by NSA, of easing the process and increasing the volume of sanitized or sanitizable COMINT;

E. Replace existing SCI security oath (Form 4066) with a single community-wide, contractual nondisclosure agreement (current APEX issue);

F. Finish redrafting of imagery, COMINT and ELINT user manuals to exclude operational information and restrict or withdraw old manuals (identified in the APEX Steering Group inventory) that include operational information;

G. Resolution of APEX issues dealing with:

    (1) Prohibition against compartmenting codewords;

    (2) Minimal classification of materials describing and explaining SCI channels;

    (3) General accesses to SCI (as opposed to specific project or product accesses) for secretaries, registry personnel, librarians, etc.

H. Promulgation of policy to exclude operational inforamtion from Finished Intelligence;

I. Reaffirm effort to apply with uniformity common SCI physical and personnel security and document handling procedures. This includes common clearance forms and mutual acceptance of access approvals. A single security policy manual could follow. (Current APEX issue.)

J. Establish an effort to rewrite information accountability rules of E.O. 12065 to accommodate high-technology, high-volume, time-sensitive, electrically processed and disseminated collection system materials, especially products.

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