

REMARKS OF WILLIAM J. CASEY

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

BEFORE

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB
HOWARD TAFT DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 1986

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB
WASHINGTON, D. C.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I AM VERY HAPPY TO BE HERE TODAY WITH MY FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY CLUB AND THEIR GUESTS. THE PROCESS OF BUILDING A NATIONAL CONSENSUS ON THE POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. TODAY I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT A FEW OF THE THREATS AND CHALLENGES CONFRONTING THE UNITED STATES THAT HAVE BEEN WEIGHING HEAVILY ON MY MIND, AND I SUSPECT, ON YOURS AS WELL. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THIS COUNTRY'S INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES AND HOW PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF CAN MAKE, AND ARE MAKING, SUCH AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO OUR MISSION.

THE CIA'S ORIGINAL AND PRIME MISSION WAS, AND STILL IS, TO ASSESS THE MILITARY THREAT TO THE U.S. THANKS IN LARGE PART TO OUR EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION CAPABILITIES, WE ARE DOING PRETTY WELL AT THAT. BUT ANYONE WHO IS AWARE OF THE TREMENDOUS EFFORT MOSCOW HAS MADE TO ERODE THE CRITICAL STRATEGIC NUCLEAR BALANCE, KNOWS WE HAVE OUR HANDS FULL.

THE SOVIETS FOR SOME TIME NOW HAVE BEEN RELENTLESSLY EXPANDING A LARGE ARSENAL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AIMED AT THE U.S., EUROPE AND EAST ASIA. NEW MISSILES AND MISSILE-CARRYING AIRCRAFT AND SUBMARINES ARE BEING DEVELOPED, TESTED AND DEPLOYED IN AMAZING PROFUSION. BY 1980, SOVIET STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE FORCES ALREADY HAD CAUGHT UP, AND IN SOME KEY AREAS

SURPASSED OURS. JUST ONE SOBERING EXAMPLE: THE SOVIETS ARE NOW PROTECTING THEIR LAND-BASED MISSILE FORCES BY DEPLOYING MOBILE MISSILES. A MOBILE U.S. ICBM WILL NOT BE DEPLOYED UNTIL THE 1990s AT BEST.

PERHAPS EVEN MORE ALARMING, THE SOVIETS ARE IN THE MIDST OF A MAJOR LONGTERM MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM -- THEIR OWN "STAR WARS," IF YOU WILL, INVOLVING SOME 10 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES AND THOUSANDS OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS. THEY LONG AGO DEPLOYED AN ABM SYSTEM AROUND MOSCOW. WE ARE THE NEWCOMERS ON THE BLOCK, ALTHOUGH YOU WOULD NEVER KNOW IT BY LISTENING TO SOVIET PROPAGANDA CONDEMNING THE PRESIDENT'S STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE AS "DESTABILIZING."

IT IS HARDLY SURPRISING THAT MOSCOW AT PRESENT IS ADVANCING NEW ARMS CONTROL INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR IMPRESSIVE GAINS AND TO CUT OFF OUR GOVERNMENT'S OWN PLANS TO MODERNIZE OUR STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE FORCES. BUT YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT MOSCOW PRESENTLY CONTINUES, THROUGH CAMOUFLAGE, CONCEALMENT AND OTHER MEASURES, TO DENY US CRITICAL INFORMATION WE NEED TO ASSESS THE CURRENT STRATEGIC BALANCE OR TO VERIFY ANY FUTURE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT.

THERE WAS A DAY WHEN UNDERSTANDING THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF OUR PRINCIPAL ADVERSARY WAS PRACTICALLY OUR ONLY MISSION. THAT DAY IS LONG PAST. THE WORLD HAS CHANGED

TREMENDOUSLY SINCE THE IMMEDIATE POST-WORLD WAR II ERA WHEN THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION WERE THE ONLY WORLD PLAYERS THAT MATTERED. THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS HAS PROLIFERATED, ISSUES HAVE BECOME BEWILDERINGLY COMPLEX, THE PACE OF CHANGE AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE ALMOST OVERWHELMING, AND THE WORLD MUCH SMALLER AND FAR MORE INTERDEPENDENT. AND THIS, IN TURN, HAS REVOLUTIONIZED THE WORLD OF INTELLIGENCE. TODAY WE FACE THREATS TO OUR LONGER TERM INTERESTS AND SECURITY IN ALL DIRECTIONS. ONE NEEDS TO LOOK NO FURTHER THAN JUST BEYOND OUR SOUTHERN BORDER TO SEE A GOOD CROSS SECTION OF THE PROBLEM: CRUSHING DEBT, A GROWING DISEQUALIBRIUM IN FOOD SUPPLY, RAPID POPULATION GROWTH, AND EXPLOSIVE URBANIZATION.

BUT UNFORTUNATELY, THE THREAT TO WORLD STABILITY DOES NOT COME SOLELY FROM SUCH INHERENT DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS. IT COMES AS WELL FROM OVERT AND COVERT SOVIET ACTIVITIES AIMED AT SUBVERTING OR DESTABILIZING GOVERNMENTS FRIENDLY TO THE U.S. IN FACT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE WEST ONCE AGAIN IS ENGAGED IN A CRITICAL STRUGGLE WITH TOTALITARIANISM -- THIS TIME IN THE FORM OF MARXISM-LENINISM AND THE PRIMARY BATTLEFIELD OF THIS STRUGGLE IS NOT ON THE MISSILE TEST RANGES BUT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF LATIN AMERICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, ASIA AND AFRICA -- TODAY'S SHORTHAND FOR THIS IS THE THIRD WORLD.

THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN BUSILY TESTING WHETHER THE U.S. WILL RESIST FOREIGN PROVOKED AND SUPPORTED INSTABILITY AND

INSURGENCY IN THE THIRD WORLD. IT HAS DEVELOPED AN AGGRESSIVE STRATEGY WHICH AVOIDS DIRECT CONFRONTATION AND INSTEAD TAKES MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE OF THIRD WORLD SURROGATES LIKE CUBA, VIETNAM, LIBYA AND NICARAGUA TO OBTAIN SOVIET OBJECTIVES. THIS ENABLES MOSCOW TO DENY INVOLVEMENT, LABEL SUCH CONFLICTS AS INTERNAL, AND WARN SELF-RIGHTEOUSLY AGAINST OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. TIME AND AGAIN WE HAVE WATCHED THE SOVIETS AND THEIR SURROGATES MOVE IN TO EXPLOIT AND INSTIGATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCONTENT. THEY GAIN AN INSURGENT BASE, EXPAND IT WITH TRAINED MEN AND MILITARY ARMS, DRIVE OUT INVESTMENT, AND WAIT FOR ANOTHER COUNTRY TO FALL. OVER THE LAST DECADE, MOSCOW HAS ADDED FIVE MAJOR NEW CLIENT STATES IN THE THIRD WORLD AND THREATENS MORE THAN A DOZEN OTHER REGIMES VIA CROSSBORDER MILITARY OPERATIONS, INSURGENCIES AND SUBVERSION.

BUT THE PENDULUM OF HISTORY SLOWLY BUT SURELY IS SWINGING AWAY FROM SOVIET MARXISM AS A MODEL FOR THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, AND TOWARD THE CONCEPTS OF DEMOCRACY AND FREE MARKET ECONOMICS. MOSCOW NOW FINDS ITSELF ON THE DEFENSIVE, SUPPORTING HIGH COST, LONG TERM EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN IN POWER THE REPRESSIVE REGIMES THEY HAVE INSTALLED OR COOPTED IN PLACES LIKE AFGHANISTAN, ANGOLA, ETHIOPIA, CAMBODIA, MOZAMBIQUE, YEMEN AND NICARAGUA. THIS ROLE REVERSAL COULD TURN OUT TO BE ONE OF THE GREAT HISTORICAL TURNING POINTS OF OUR LIFETIME. BUT IT WILL ONLY WORK OUT THIS WAY IF THE INDIGENOUS THIRD WORLD FORCES RESISTING MARXISM-LENINISM, TOGETHER WITH THE U.S. AND

THE WEST, CAN ACT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPEN "WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY" TO ADVANCE DEMOCRACY.

I BELIEVE THE STAKES IN CENTRAL AMERICA ARE HUGE AND HISTORIC. A SOVIET MILITARY BASE ON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT DIVIDING NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA IS BEING PUT INTO PLACE -- A TOEHOLD OF SOVIET MILITARY POWER AND SUBVERSION THAT COULD ENDANGER THE PANAMA CANAL IN THE SHORT TERM AND MEXICO IN THE SOMEWHAT LONGER TERM. RIGHT NOW THE SANDINISTA ARMY WITH CUBAN HELICOPTER PILOTS AND COMBAT DIRECTION, AND A HALF BILLION DOLLARS OF SOPHISTICATED SOVIET WEAPONRY, IS GOING ALL OUT TO DESTROY THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE BEFORE NEW ASSISTANCE CAN REACH IT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE SANDINISTAS ARE STICKING TO THEIR BLUEPRINT OF BUILDING AN ALL-POWERFUL STATE SECURITY APPARATUS, THE STRONGEST ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL AMERICA, AND IN DEVELOPING A CENTER FOR EXPORTING SUBVERSION AND TERRORISM TO THE REGION.

IN THIS LATTER REGARD, THE LINK BETWEEN LIBYAN-AND CUBAN-SPONSORED TERRORISM IN CUBA AND NICARAGUA IS LARGE AND GROWING LARGER. FOR SOME YEARS, THE LIBYANS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT IN NICARAGUA WITH SOMETHING LIKE \$100 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR. WE NOW SEE NICARAGUA TRAINING YOUNG MEN FOR VIOLENCE AND SUBVERSION, SENDING THEM AS FAR DOWN INTO SOUTH AMERICA AS CHILE. YOUNG MEN FROM LATIN AMERICA ARE BEING SENT TO LIBYA FOR TRAINING IN THE TERRORIST CAMPS THERE AND THEN ARE BROUGHT BACK TO BE

PLANTED AMONG THE POPULATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA, IN VENEZUELA, IN ECUADOR. IF THE SANDINISTA REGIME CONSOLIDATES ITSELF, WE CAN EXPECT MANAGUA TO BECOME THE BEIRUT OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

AND OF COURSE, THERE IS NO WAY THIS COUNTRY CAN IMMUNIZE ITSELF FROM SUCH AN INFECTION. ALREADY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF NICARAGUANS AND SALVADORANS HAVE FLED THEIR COUNTRIES AND HEADED NORTH. CAN ANYONE DOUBT THAT AS SOON AS IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE ABOUT TO COMPLETE THEIR CONQUEST OF NICARAGUA, ANOTHER SIGNAL WILL BE FLASHED AND MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL LEAVE CENTRAL AMERICA, AND ULTIMATELY MEXICO, TO CROSS THE BORDER INTO THE UNITED STATES.

THERE IS NOTHING INEVITABLE ABOUT THIS SCENARIO. TWO CAN PLAY THE SAME GAME. JUST AS THERE IS A CLASSIC FORMULA FOR COMMUNIST SUBVERSION AND TAKEOVER, THERE ALSO IS A PROVEN METHOD OF OVERTHROWING REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT THAT CAN BE APPLIED SUCCESSFULLY IN NICARAGUA.

THE NEW MONEY RECENTLY VOTED BY CONGRESS WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO FURTHER TURN UP THE HEAT ON THE SANDINISTAS BY STEADILY EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF RESISTANCE TROOPS IN THE FIELD AND BY OPENING NEW AREAS OF OPERATION. I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT MATCHING THE SANDINISTAS WEAPON-FOR-WEAPON OR OF ACHIEVING A CLASSIC MILITARY VICTORY. HISTORY SHOWS THAT A COMBINATION OF

NAGGING INSURGENT MILITARY PRESSURE AND PROGRESSIVE WITHDRAWAL OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT IS WHAT BRINGS DOWN OR ALTERS AN UNPOPULAR GOVERNMENT. THIS PROCESS ALREADY IS UNDERWAY IN NICARAGUA. THE INSURGENTS HAVE MADE GAINS AMONG RURAL PEASANTS UNHAPPY WITH MANAGUA'S RECENT COLLECTIVIZATION AND RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENT'S MANDATORY MILITARY DRAFT AND ANTI-CHURCH POLICIES. THE HEAVY FINANCIAL BURDEN OF THE SANDINISTAS' COUNTERINSURGENCY EFFORT COMBINED WITH POOR ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT ALSO IS CREATING MOUNTING DISCONTENT WITHIN THE COUNTRY.

WE SHOULD NOT KID OURSELVES. THE SOVIETS AND THEIR CLIENTS WILL NOT GIVE UP THEIR TOEHOLDS WITHOUT A DETERMINED FIGHT.

- IN ANGOLA, NEW SHIPMENTS OF SOVIET AND CUBAN MILITARY SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN MOVED INTO PLACE TO SUPPORT A RENEWED OFFENSIVE AGAINST SAVIMBI'S RESISTANCE FIGHTERS (OVER 2 BILLION DOLLARS OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE SINCE 1983).

- THE SOVIETS CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO PRESSURE AND INTIMIDATE PAKISTAN FROM SUPPORTING THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE, MOST RECENTLY BY SHARPLY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SOVIET AND AFGHAN AIR FORCE INCURSIONS INTO PAKISTANI AIR SPACE.

THE INCREASING APPEARANCE OF VIETNAMESE-SUPPLIED U.S. ARMS IN TROUBLE SPOTS AROUND THE WORLD IS A PARTICULARLY GRAPHIC EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE ARE UP AGAINST. THE SOVIETS AND THEIR SURROGATES ARE FOMENTING VIOLENCE WITH THE TREMENDOUS STOCKPILE OF U.S. WEAPONRY SEIZED BY THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS IN 1975. THESE ARMS HAVE BEGUN TO SHOW UP IN VARIOUS PLACES IN ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA -- IN HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, JAMAICA AND COLOMBIA WITH CUBA, WE BELIEVE, DOING THE DELIVERY. AND NOW WE HAVE THE DISCOVERY OF AN ENORMOUS CACHE OF SUCH WEAPONS IN CHILE--SOME 3400 U.S. M-16 RIFLES AND MORE THAN A HUNDRED U.S. ANTI-TANK WEAPONS. U.S. POLICY HAS TO DEAL WITH THE REALITY OF A SOVIET AND SOVIET-SURROGATE NETWORK OF THIRD WORLD SUBVERSION. IT CANNOT BE WISHED AWAY.

I TOLD YOU I WOULD DISCUSS THE STATE OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE. THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS, I CAN TELL YOU THAT OUR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM TODAY IS MORE ROBUST THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR HISTORY AND IN FAR BETTER SHAPE THAN 6 OR 7 YEARS AGO. WE HAVE MADE ENORMOUS PROGRESS ACROSS THE BOARD IN INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS.

IN OUR BUSINESS WE CAN'T AFFORD TO STAND STILL. THE KGB AND ITS ALLIED INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AND FRONT ORGANIZATIONS CONSTITUTE A WORLD-WIDE APPARATUS THAT IS WORKING TO STEAL OUR TECHNOLOGY, DAMAGE OUR REPUTATION, DIVIDE US FROM OUR FRIENDS, AND DESTABILIZE, SUBVERT, AND OVERTHROW GOVERNMENTS FRIENDLY TO

US. THEIR RUMORS, AGENTS OF INFLUENCE, AND FORGERIES, SPREADING POISON AROUND THE WORLD, HAVE TO BE SPOTTED AND COUNTERED. CIA IS THE ONLY ORGANIZATION IN THE WEST WITH THE RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES NECESSARY TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THIS CHALLENGE. WE ARE IN ACTION EVERY DAY TRACKING AND COUNTERING DRUG-RUNNERS AND GUN-SMUGGLERS, THE SOME 300 FIRMS ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION; THE VIOLENT REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS AND TERRORIST TRAINING CAMPS AROUND THE WORLD.

AND WE ARE BEING DRAWN INTO NON-TRADITIONAL AREAS OF COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS AT A BREATHTAKING PACE. I AM TALKING ABOUT THE KIND OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES THAT ARE IMPOSING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT CHALLENGES TO OUR SOCIETY. THIS LIST IS LONG -- INTERNATIONAL FINANCE, INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS, THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR, CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, JUST TO MENTION A FEW.

I'M PROUD OF THE MANNER IN WHICH WE HAVE MOVED SMARTLY TO EXTEND OUR REACH TO DEVELOP NEW COLLECTION TECHNIQUES, HIRING NEW KINDS OF ANALYSTS, AND DEVELOPING NEW TECHNOLOGIES. WE KNOW THAT IF WE DON'T TAP THE IMPRESSIVE SOURCES OF EXPERTISE OUTSIDE OUR BUILDING, OUR OWN CAPITAL STOCK OF KNOWLEDGE AND IMAGINATION WILL RAPIDLY DEplete. WE HAVE WORKED HARD TO REBUILD OUR BRIDGES TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY FOLLOWING THE BAD OLD DAYS OF THE VIETNAM ERA. WE SUBMIT MANY OF OUR MOST

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENTS FOR REVIEW BY OUTSIDE ACADEMIC EXPERTS WHO WORK WITH US ON A CONSULTANT BASIS.

THE PRIVATE BUSINESS SECTOR IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT SOURCE OF OUTSIDE EXPERTISE. IN ADDITION TO ALL THE COMMERCIAL INFORMATION SERVICES WE SUBSCRIBE TO, THE PUBLICATIONS WE PURCHASE, THE DATABASES WE RECEIVE OR COMPILE, AND OUR OWN PEOPLE OVERSEAS, WE LISTEN CLOSELY TO WHAT THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAS TO TELL US. WE FIND U.S. BUSINESSMEN -- WHETHER THEY BE MANUFACTURERS, BANKERS, OR COMMODITY DEALERS -- READY AND WILLING TO SHARE THEIR INSIGHTS WITH US ON SUBJECTS RANGING FROM HIGH-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE AND JAPAN TO THIRD WORLD DEBT PROBLEMS TO SOVIET GRAIN PURCHASES AND MANY MORE.

WE KNOW THEY'RE OUT THERE DEALING WITH THEIR FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS EVERY DAY AND HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND IDEAS THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CANNOT GET IN ANY OTHER WAY. WE HAVE REORGANIZED OUR COMPONENT RESPONSIBLE FOR BEING IN TOUCH WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND WE ARE DEVOTING SOME OF OUR BEST TALENT -- AND A LOT OF IT -- TO THE ENDEAVOR.

BEFORE I SIT DOWN, LET ME LAY DOWN JUST ONE MORE MARKER. I AM SURE YOU HAVE ALL HEARD ABOUT OUR RECENT EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH AN OLD NATIONAL SECURITY PROBLEM THAT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTOLERABLE. I AM TALKING ABOUT THE DELIBERATE LEAKING OF SENSITIVE CLASSIFIED INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION FROM

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF OUR GOVERNMENT, AND THE REPLAYING OF THAT INFORMATION BY THE MEDIA.

I DON'T HAVE TIME NOW TO GO THROUGH THE WHOLE CHAMBER OF HORRORS ON LEAKS. BUT I CAN TELL YOU THAT WE CAN, AND DO, LOSE SENSITIVE COLLECTION SYSTEMS THAT COST BILLIONS OF HARD-EARNED TAX DOLLARS -- AGENTS CAN, AND DO, DIE AS A RESULT OF LEAKS -- OUR ALLIES CAN, AND DO, LOSE FAITH IN OUR ABILITIES TO PROTECT INFORMATION THEY PASS US.

JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF ONE OF OUR CLOSEST ALLIES TOLD US THEY CAN NO LONGER PASS US ADVANCE INFORMATION ON TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IT HAS HAD ENOUGH OF READING ABOUT ITS MOST SENSITIVE, WELL-PROTECTED INFORMATION IN THE U.S. MEDIA. AND WHEN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS ARE COMPROMISED IN AREAS SUCH AS COUNTERTERRORISM, THE DIRECT RESULT EASILY COULD BE DEAD AMERICAN TOURISTS AND OTHER ORDINARY CITIZENS. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION PUTS LIVES AND NATIONAL SECURITY AT RISK AND DOES MORE DAMAGE TO OUR INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES THAN SOVIET ESPIONAGE.

WE KNOW WE CAN'T THROW ROCKS AROUND IN A GLASS HOUSE. OUR FIRST PRIORITY MUST BE TO TIGHTEN DISCIPLINE WITHIN OUR GOVERNMENT AND, BELIEVE ME, WE ARE DOING JUST THAT. WE ARE PUTTING INTO PLACE MECHANISMS TO AGGRESSIVELY INVESTIGATE

APPARENT CASES OF LEAKING WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND TO TAKE PUNITIVE AND LEGAL ACTION AGAINST GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO BETRAY THE TRUST PLACED IN THEM. PEOPLE HAVE LOST THEIR JOBS IN RECENT MONTHS.

BUT, OF COURSE, THE LEAK ITSELF IS JUST ONE SIDE OF THE EQUATION. WE HAVE TO DO A MUCH BETTER JOB THAN WE HAVE IN THE PAST OF CONVINCING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE MEDIA OF THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND SENSITIVE COLLECTION SYSTEMS.

IN THIS DANGEROUS WORLD WE LIVE IN AND IN THIS MODERN ERA OF INTELLIGENCE, THE STAKES HAVE BECOME ENTIRELY TOO HIGH TO SWEEP THIS BREACH OF TRUST, IRRESPONSIBILITY AND VIOLATION OF LAW IN THE HANDLING OF SENSITIVE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION UNDER THE RUG.

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR INTELLIGENCE SERVICES ARE IN A DANGEROUS, DIFFICULT, AND NOT PARTICULARLY WELL PAID PROFESSION BECAUSE THEY WANT TO ENSURE THAT THEIR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, AND YOURS, WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE PROTECTION OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT AND THE PRIVILEGE OF LIVING IN A COUNTRY WITH A FREE PRESS. BUT NATIONAL SECURITY IS ALSO A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE. OBVIOUSLY WHAT'S NEEDED IS SOME BALANCE AND ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MEDIA.

THE ISSUE IS SIMPLY ONE OF RESPONSIBILITY, DISCRETION AND COMMON SENSE. WHO PAYS FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW COLLECTION SYSTEM OR RECRUITING A NEW HUMAN SOURCE TO REPLACE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN COMPROMISED? YOU, ME, AND EVERY OTHER TAXPAYER IN THE COUNTRY.

SO IN CONCLUSION, LET ME ASK FOR YOUR HELP -- NOT JUST ON THE LEAKS ISSUE - BUT ACROSS THE BOARD. OUR EFFECTIVENESS DEPENDS ON RECRUITING GOOD PEOPLE. YOU CAN DIRECT TALENTED PEOPLE OUR WAY. SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND ACCESS. SUPPORT US IN THE COURT OF PUBLIC OPINION. WE ALL BENEFIT FROM A STRONG INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY. WE WILL ALL PAY IF IT IS WEAKENED.
