

THE DIRECTOR OF  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

National Intelligence Council

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All NIOs

The DCI was recently asked for an unclassified "on the record" statement on the integrity and objectivity of the intelligence process by New York Times reporter Stephen Engleberg.

After considering inputs from the NIC and DDI, the DCI penned the attached himself. It is a good example of his thinking and his style--which Public Affairs has indicated we might circulate to you for your information.

We have been told Engleberg's article should appear within the next few days--it will be circulated when it becomes available.

  
Barry Horton

cc: VC/NIC (Fuller)  
VC/NIC (Hutchinson)

14 Aug 1987

I am convinced that intelligence activities vital to the protection and preservation of our national security will be counterproductive unless conducted objectively, professionally, and lawfully, with absolute fidelity to our Constitution and to our laws. Intelligence must be timely and relevant to the consumers to whom it is distributed--the President and his policymakers and the Congressional oversight committees. We try to address consumer needs, both what they ask to know and what we believe they need to know. Important estimates are now fully addressed at senior levels throughout the entire Intelligence Community and divergent points of view are disclosed in the finished product. The reports are furnished without regard to whether or not they support a particular policy line and they may not be altered for that purpose. Truth, as best we can discern it, is both our end product and our strongest weapon.

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