

EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTORS AWARD CEREMONY

DCI's REMARKS

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am particularly pleased to have the opportunity to be here today for the fourth annual Exceptional Collector National HUMINT Awards ceremony. This ceremony honors those among our HUMINT collection professionals, military and civilian, who have excelled in the collection and reporting of intelligence information of significant value to the nation.

All of us are aware of the broad range of intelligence requirements which are tasked to domestic and field collectors in support of our national policymakers, the various government agencies, military field commands, and analysts. In a world of increasing complexity and demands for more intelligence we are faced with resource reductions and the difficulty of determining which intelligence programs must be curtailed or eliminated. We must now do more with less against a worldwide intelligence and counterintelligence challenge that continues to increase in its dimensions.

It is, therefore, critical that we maintain the quality of our intelligence collection, reporting, and analysis. We must more clearly define and prioritize our intelligence requirements and focus the efforts of our

collection programs. Essential to this effort is the HUMINT collector. HUMINT is unique among our intelligence collection disciplines in that it is human-resource intensive. We must have top quality personnel.

After reviewing the accomplishments of the individual collectors and collection units who are represented here today, I am confident that we have the top quality personnel. The personnel we are here to honor represent the best among the HUMINT collectors within the Intelligence Community. Their accomplishments span the entire range of collection programs, from overt collection of information to sensitive clandestine operations. These men and women have provided extraordinary service to their country. Often they have run personal risks and have performed their duties under difficult and demanding circumstances. They have shown exceptional skill in performing their collection efforts--activities which include imaginative, and tenacious debriefing of contacts, informants and defectors, identifying and recruiting sources; building up a network of contacts from whom we can deduce patterns of political activity and other information not discernible by other means of collection; and, technical and scientific analysis.

Working individually or as members of teams, at times in hostile or otherwise difficult collection environments, these men and women have demonstrated certain unique qualities which they share. They have a broad understanding of consumer's intelligence requirements; they have mastered the necessary skills of intelligence collection and have sound judgement and

self-discipline; they have outstanding communication skills and the ability to deal effectively with people from different cultures; and, are highly dedicated to serving our nation and providing its leaders with the best intelligence possible.

Because of the sensitive nature of certain HUMINT collection activities, the accomplishments of some of these award recipients cannot be fully discussed or identified. The fact, however, that these recipients have been singled out by their respective agencies for this award shows the value of their contributions and the high esteem with which they are held by their supervisors and colleagues.

I am pleased to speak for the Intelligence Community in recognizing each of you for the distinguished service which you have rendered as exceptional collectors. I congratulate you all.

We will now proceed with the presentation of awards. I invite the award recipients to step forward as their names are called.