

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

1 May 1984

Comments on Recent CENTER LANE Experience

1. CIA's relationship with the US Army activities covered under the designator of CENTER LANE has been that of a customer. We have no Agency people or funds assigned to or otherwise designated in support of those activities. We do have contact for the purpose of querying and tasking the Project's capabilities when we believe we have an appropriate matter to investigate.

2. Appropriate "targets" for us might include such as locating individuals or describing mysterious facilities in foreign countries. Our aim in consulting Subject Projects would be to obtain leads to develop access with more conventional sources. Staff advisers inform me that during such tasks for us, CENTER LANE sources have often "made contact" far beyond what might be expected by probabilities and coincidence. Significant problems of course remain. To use analogy, they are best described as a less than hoped for signal-to-noise ratio and a less than photographic resolution, as well as some outright misses. Nevertheless, the attitude of Project personnel has always been professional, helpful, and receptive to our concerns. I am confident that they have a good grip on where they are in the state of their art as an applied technology.

3. We would like to continue to call upon CENTER LANE, especially in those special instances where, for the moment, we have no other recourse and still feel a need to act. With shared practical experiences, it seems likely that CENTER LANE can build further capabilities as a collector, and we can sharpen our ability to use this product in the analytical process.

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Deputy Director for Operations

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