NCT RELEASABLE TO
SECRET FOREIGN NATIONALS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20310

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DAMI-ISH   1 8 APR 1983

SUBJECT: CENTER LANE (U)

EXCLUSIVE FOR
Major General Albert N. Stubblebine III
Commander
US Army Intelligence and Security Command
Arlington Hall Station
Arlington, VA 22212

1. (U) Several recent events have potential for considerable impact on
CENTER LANE and I desire to bring them to your attention. In addition, I
would like to comment on what we need to accomplish in the near future to
insure that we are adequately prepared to deal with the opportunities which
have been presented to us.

2. (S/NOFORN) Probably the most important event since your new initiative
began was the memorandum from the Under Secretary of Defense, Research and
Engineering, authorizing use of Program 6 resources to maintain current Army
INSCOM capability and supplement as necessary the FY 83 DIA evaluation effort.
Your Project Manager's excellent briefing of the Assistant Secretary of the
Army (Research, Development & Acquisition) showed how you intend to bring the
project back to full and effective strength using Program 6 funds and obtained
his approval for the concept. We now need to finalize the proposals and sub-
mit them, as you can accept funding, for approval.

3. (S/NOFORN) I find very gratifying some of the comments made by the
Director, DIA in forwarding the USDRE memorandum and I quote him for your
benefit:

   "Mindful of the past investments in time and manpower and the need to pre-
serve the fragile, painstakingly constructed experience factor, I am particu-
larly gratified to see the Army able to continue its work. I also hope that
this new opportunity will yield some hard positive conclusions that will form
the basis for a stronger and more sustained effort in this area of inquiry
throughout the near term."

CENTER LANE (U)
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   HAND CARRY

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DAMI-ISH
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18 APR 1983

4. (C) More recently, the Under Secretary of the Army expressed to me a desire that the Army participate in activities of the nature addressed by CENTER LANE to the extent necessary to stay abreast of the state-of-the-art and that we try for two contractors. These desires were surfaced by my staff to the ASA(RDA) during his briefing as being a new and somewhat different task for you which would require thought and additional funding, and he concurred.

5. (U) Discussions with DIA indicate that in the near future Army will be called upon to participate in briefings for Congress and I ask that your project personnel assist in this important endeavor. Prior to any such briefings we must insure that our house is in order and I offer the following as points which must be accomplished.

    a. (U) The program must be tightened up and legitimized through a clear audit trail of activities. Your staff has made great strides in this area and we need to finalize the project's documentation.

    b. (S/NOFORN) OPSEC should again be of great concern and I applaud your efforts to establish a Special Access Program. Some linkage to your former, similar program will be inevitable, but must be minimized. I suggest that instead of being part of a joint DOD program INSCOM is now engaged in a similar, cooperative effort of its own initiative. In keeping with this theme I have withdrawn from two committees and ask that you complete any actions still outstanding from your effort which closed 30 September 1982.

    c. (U) An extremely close interface must be maintained between your project, my staff and DIA. We face what promises to be renewed interest in the project by Congress and senior government officials over the next few months and must insure that our activities are well integrated.

6. (U) I look forward to the events of the next few months with the expectation that CENTER LANE will receive recognition as an intelligence activity worthy of endorsement.

WILLIAM E. ODOM
Major General, USA
ACofS for Intelligence