

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

November 4, 2005

To My Intelligence Community Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the creation of the DNI Open Source Center, effective 1 November 2005.

The Center is the centerpiece of my response to the WMD Commission recommendations calling for the Intelligence Community to devote more attention and resources to exploiting openly available information. The Center will advance the Intelligence Community's exploitation of open source material, including from the Internet, and enable all Intelligence Community analysts to access and use relevant open source materials.

In executing the national strategy for open source, the Center will be a comprehensive Intelligence Community Center focused on all open sources, to include the Internet, databases, press, radio, television, video, geospatial data, photos, and commercial imagery. The Center's functions will include collection/acquisition; open source analysis and research; centralized training; and facilitation of government-wide access and exploitation.

The Director of Central Intelligence will serve as the DNI's Executive Agent for the Center, with day-to-day management delegated to Center Director Douglas J. Naquin, a senior CIA manager with extensive experience in the open source and information technology fields. The Center Director will report directly to DDCIA in executing strategy, policy, and program guidance established by the DNI. The Center has two deputies: a Deputy Director for Community Integration and a Deputy Director for Open Source Operations. At least one of the deputies will always be drawn from outside CIA. The Center will be based at the CIA, building on the established expertise of CIA's Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), but will be separate from other CIA directorates.

The Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Open Source, soon to be named, will establish open source strategy, policy and program guidance for the Center and other Intelligence Community elements. The ADDNI/OS will also head the Open Source Steering Committee and will nurture a distributed open source architecture across the Intelligence Community.

Sincerely,



John D. Negroponte