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Critique of Summer Intern Program 7 Aug 73

The processing was efficient and I was kept up on the progress of my application until after I'd had the polygraph interview. However, after this last interview, I heard nothing and finally had to call the personnel office in OCI and ask where I stood. I was told that my papers had been ready for several weeks and the personnel officer hadn't called me yet.

Upon entering on duty, I was given an interesting work assignment and my preference was taken into account. I was treated very well by everyone in the office. My assignment entailed sufficient responsibility to keep my interest.

I suggest that the testing and processing be scheduled closer together. I had appointments on three successive days for testing, but the amount of time for each day was only one or two hours. I could have easily combined two days worth of testing into one.

I think that before a final assignment to an office is made, the intern should be consulted. Often times an intern might prefer an assignment with OCI rather than FBIS or vice versa. Temporary assignments in more than one office might be valuable. Perhaps other directorates besides DDI could utilize interim employees. The intern program seems to be more valuable as an Agency orientation program, an exposure to different aspects of the C.I.A. This is beneficial because the intern can decide whether long term employment with the Agency would be what he wants. Conversely, the Agency can evaluate him as a prospective employee.

It was difficult for me to find out what the various directorates and offices did and what working for one of them would be like. I was interested in the offices of Security, Technical Support, Clandestine and Covert Operations such as counterintelligence and paramilitary, but foudd it nearly impossible to find out what a job in one of those offices would entail and whether

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I'd be happy doing one of these jobs as a career. Although security precautions are understandable, I felt that I could have been given a general picture of the duties involved in the respective areas.

There has been some confusion as to what clearances a summer intern has and/to what types of things he has access. As I understand it, the "H" clearance given to interns is the same as everyone else. Perhaps if branch chiefs were briefed before interns started work on what clearances they had and what the interns were expected to do during the interim assignments there would be less confusion.

I have been very impressed with the Agency during this summer. There is a high degree of professionalism here and the organization uses good judgement.

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