This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) Center for Security Evaluation (CSE). The Center was created in the wake of the Soviet compromise of U.S. diplomatic facilities in the 1980’s and terrorist attacks, and has since played an indispensable role in protecting our nation from foreign threats.

In 1988, Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) William Webster created the DCI Security Evaluation Office. The office was tasked with providing the Intelligence Community’s input to the Secretary of State in formulating security standards for overseas diplomatic facilities and monitoring compliance with those standards. Through various Congressionally-mandated changes and organizational restructuring, the office was renamed the Center for Security Evaluation in 1991, and has become a component of ODNI’s National Counterintelligence and Security Center.

The Center for Security Evaluation has developed into a fully integrated, multi-agency organization supporting the Department of State. The Center provides on-site support for major construction projects to ensure security and counterintelligence standards are met, and Intelligence Community equities are protected during the development, design, and construction of U.S. diplomatic facilities. CSE also partners with other components of the Intelligence Community, the State Department, and industry to assess technical shortfalls, identify solutions, and manage the integration of emerging technologies to improve countermeasures. In addition, the Center for Security Evaluation:

- Ensures the implementation of all DNI security policies and guidance to protect classified national security information, operations, national intelligence, and intelligence sources and methods.

- Provides Intelligence Community advice and requirements to the Department of State in carrying out the Secretary of State’s statutory responsibilities to develop and implement policies and programs to protect U.S. diplomatic facilities and U.S. personnel abroad.

- Administers the National Technical Surveillance Countermeasures (TSCM) program; developing the nation’s strategic policies, planning, and requirements for the Intelligence Community’s effort to protect the nation’s classified and sensitive information against technical espionage.

The 30th anniversary of the Center for Security Evaluation is an important milestone in one of our nation’s most important counterintelligence and security efforts.