



(U) One Last Mo-Gram: Thank You

FROM: Maureen Baginski
Sigint Director
Run Date: 04/18/2003

(U//FOUO) Overwhelmed is not a word I use often, but it's the right word to describe how I feel in the face of all the email wishes, kind words, hugs, cards, and remembrances I've received since making the announcement of my move to the FBI. I've been very humbled by the outpouring of understanding, support and kindness--humbled, because I believe in your sincerity for two reasons: 1) as a person I try my best to always assume noble intent, and 2) as an analyst, reasoning based on evidence tells me there's no earthly reason for anyone to suck up to me any longer! :)

(U//FOUO) I told you before what an emotion-filled decision this was for me, and now I know why. All of you in some very special way have touched my life. I have so many great memories of my time at NSA, and they all center on the enduring relationships that have been built as we pursued our mission to defend the nation. When I think back on what might be considered seminal moments in my time at NSA, it's not the operational or analytic details I remember--it's the faces and names of the people with whom I shared the experience. In the end, any professional accomplishment I may have enjoyed occurred because of the generosity of human spirit, intellect, and dedication that is the hallmark of the NSA workforce. In many ways it's as if I grew up here. It's a privilege to have learned something from every family member I've encountered. I shall forever treasure all the lessons I learned, but three will stay with me forever: 1) Leaders and managers work for the people---not the other way around; 2) Never confuse your personal importance with that of your position; and 3) Laugh often and well--it truly is the best medicine.

(U//FOUO) In my last day as SIGINT Director, I'd like to challenge you to always remember that we protect the nation in three ways:

By the information we produce

By protecting the rights of U.S. citizens

By using the nation's resources responsibly.

(U//FOUO) Starting 5 May I'll be protecting the same nation in the same way from a new location and I look forward to working with you in a new way. Again, it's truly been an honor to serve with you.

"(U//FOUO) SIDtoday articles may not be republished or reposted outside NSANet without the consent of S0121 ([DL sid_comms](#))."