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Exhaustion—scheduling a lengthy or extensive itinerary of events and activities designed to tire visitors and make them pliable.

- Drivers or guides frequently accompany visitors and engage in elicitation

Eavesdropping – listening in on conversations for information

- Usually in social settings (bars, restaurants, or public transportation, etc.) where talking “shop” often occurs

Technical Eavesdropping – use of audio/visual devices (often concealed) installed in public and private facilities, especially hotels and restaurants

Surreptitious Entry—entry into your hotel room (often hotel assisted), accommodation or office to access documents or electronic information

Electronic Interception – Fax, Telex, cell phones, and the internet are vulnerable to monitoring due to government control of telecom infrastructure

Physical Surveillance –monitoring of your movements and activities

Common sense and basic CI awareness can effectively protect you against FISS attempts to collect sensitive information. Things you can do include:

Do not leave sensitive materials in hotel rooms or safes

Do not use computers or faxes at hotels or business centers for sensitive material

Do not discuss information with someone who does not have a reason to know it

Keep your personal computer as carry-on baggage

Do not leave cell phones or portable electronics unattended

Do not attempt to locate listening devices

Do not attempt to evade physical surveillance

Report CI incidents when you return

In addition, there are several things you can do to successfully counter elicitation:

Prepare talking points ahead of time that do not disclose sensitive information

Do not engage in conversation alone

Redirect the conversation

Excuse yourself from the conversation

Reply to a question with a question

Provide vague or hypothetical responses

Provide historical, publicly known information

Change the topic

Feign ignorance

Ask “Why?”

If you observe any activity that seems to be out of character with the purpose of a foreign visit, please contact the FBI San Diego Field Office at 858-565-1255

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