To: Information Security Oversight Office
    National Archives and Records Administration
    700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
    Washington, DC 20408

Subject: Defense Intelligence Agency Fundamental Classification Guidance Review Results


1. As directed by References (a) and (b), the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) conducted a Fundamental Classification Guidance Review (FCGR) and noted the following:

   a. DIA reviewed 184 security classification guides (SCGs) during this assessment; DIA updated 179 of those guides to reflect changes to information security policy and current circumstances. Four SCGs required no further action, and one was cancelled due to redundant information.

   b. As a result of FCGR, classification durations did not change, and no information was declassified or downgraded. DIA SCGs classify operations or technologies that reveal sensitive intelligence sources and methodology or sensitive intelligence relationships with foreign governments. These intelligence sources, methods, and relationships remain national security concerns even after operations are completed, relationships are ended, or newer technologies are developed. This effort, however, helped to identify all of DIA’s SCGs, eliminate redundancy, update and clarify DIA’s security classification guidance, and streamline the review process.

   c. DIA has posted all its SCGs to its Secret and Top Secret networks. DIA will also forward all current SCGs to the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) for posting on its classified web portal. Unclassified DIA SCGs will be made available on DTIC’s unclassified portal.

   d. DIA has implemented several initiatives to maintain compliance with Reference (a) and applicable Department of Defense and Director of National Intelligence (DNI) information security policies. These include adopting the DNI derivative classifier training module for all DIA employees and affiliates and establishing panels for the periodic review of extant SCGs.
2. To complete this FCGR process, original classification authorities, security personnel, and subject matter experts reviewed the SCGs to determine whether the guidance reflected current operational and technical circumstances and to ensure that the guidance meets Reference (b) standards. They also benchmarked DIA SCGs against known SCGs published by other agencies to identify possible redundancies and to ensure that DIA classification determinations were consistent with determinations made by other agencies regarding similar topics.

3. This effort reviewed non-Special Access Program (SAP) SCGs. DIA is conducting a review of its SAP SCGs as a part of a Department of Defense SAP Central Office initiative.

4. DIA maintains a robust declassification program that engages in automatic, manual, and mandatory declassification actions. Last year alone, DIA declassified approximately 1.1 million pages of information. Information is continually reviewed to determine whether downgrading or declassification would be in the best interests of national security. Further, internal DIA policies require that SCGs be reviewed at least every 5 years to determine whether the classification levels and durations prescribed in the guidance are still accurate and necessary.

5. A summary of the results will be published on DIA’s website (www.dia.mil).

6. The point of contact on this memo is Mr. Erik Hobbs, (703) 907-2954, erik.hobbs@dia.mil, or Ms. Deborah Ross, (703) 907-1642, deborah.ross@dia.mil.

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