



NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

14675 Lee Road
Chantilly, VA 20151-1715

7 June 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, INFORMATION SECURITY OVERSIGHT OFFICE

SUBJECT: Final Report on Fundamental Classification Guidance
Review

- REFERENCES:
- (a) Executive Order 13526 - *Classified National Security Information*, 29 December 2009
 - (b) Information Security Oversight Office memorandum, *Fundamental Classification Guidance Review*, 27 January 2011
 - (c) ODNI memorandum, *Fundamental Classification Guidance Review*, 26 May 2011
 - (d) Information Security Oversight Office memorandum, *Reporting Results of Fundamental Classification Guidance Reviews to ISOO*, 23 January 2012

The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) is providing this final report on our Fundamental Classification Guide Review (FCGR) as requested in references (b), (c) and (d).

In 2009, the NRO Office of Security and Counterintelligence (OS&CI) submitted to the Director, NRO (DNRO) a Strategic Initiative to develop an Integrated NRO Classification Guide (INCG). The DNRO approved this request and work began on this project in July 2009. The objective of this initiative was to integrate all NRO classification guides with a standard set of classification requirements and individual annexes of classification tables maintained by Directorates and Offices (Ds&Os) according to instructions issued by the INCG manager. The desired outcome was to make the INCG more agile, timely, consistent, uniform, and flexible in providing classification guidance and principles at the lowest appropriate classification level.

An Integrated Process Team (IPT) was formed consisting of classification specialists from all Ds&Os with published classification guides to submit suggestions for change, review issues and areas where uniformity needed to be achieved, and to

SUBJECT: Final Report on Fundamental Classification
Guidance Review

review and comment during coordination of the final product. Once a draft was achieved, it was sent through the Ds&Os, the National Security Agency (NSA), and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) for comment and coordination. Over 400 comments were received and addressed, resulting in only one final "non-concur" and one "concur with comment". The INCG then entered the NRO Corporate Decision Process (CDP) which consists of an ascending level of briefings to NRO Corporate Group, Board, and Council representatives to discuss and resolve any remaining concerns, resulting in a final version approved by the DNRO and signed by the Director, OS&CI (D/OS&CI), both of which are an Original Classification Authority (OCA). During these deliberations, all NRO OCAs are in attendance as well as NSA and NGA representatives.

The Council approved the INCG, the DNRO signed an approval memorandum directing its use and delegating overall control and responsibility to the D/OS&CI who signed the INCG on 13 February 2012. We then instituted an educational campaign to socialize the existence and use of the INCG. We also began the review of our remaining program-specific guides for either conversion to annexes to the INCG, or as standalone guides which are required for dissemination to our mission partners, with a target date for completion of 27 June 2012.

We were successful in declassifying two key items and decompartmenting two others to a non-SCI level. Additionally, the NRO gains efficiencies by standardizing the introductory boilerplate and common items of information applicable to all programs and offices. Now, when changes are required in that material, they need only be made to the INCG but will apply across the NRO. The INCG Annexes will contain only program-specific items unique to their respective focus areas, but will be reviewed for uniformity and consistency with other programs due to centralized control over the INCG. Several joint programs, however, will still maintain a stand-alone classification guide depending upon the makeup of the user environment and mission partner requirements.

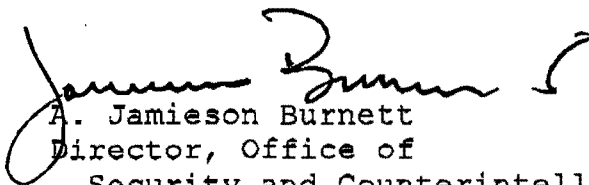
The final status of NRO security classification guides (SCG) is as follows:

- The number of classification guides reviewed; 67
- The number of classification guides that were consolidated or cancelled; 37
- The number of projects, programs, or categories that were eliminated, revised, consolidated, or condensed; 6
- The number of documents, topics, or categories that were downgraded in classification level; 5

SUBJECT: Final Report on Fundamental Classification
Guidance Review

- The number of cases in which the duration of classification was modified or the number of cases in which exemptions from declassification were removed; 0

My point of contact for questions concerning this submission is Geoff Eade, 703-808-3622.



A. Jamieson Burnett
Director, Office of
Security and Counterintelligence

cc:
ODNI/CIO/IMO
OUSD(I)