

**REPORT**

**of the**

**COMMISSION ON  
PROTECTING AND REDUCING  
GOVERNMENT SECRECY**

**PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 236  
103RD CONGRESS**

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# The Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy

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The Honorable John M. Deutch, Belmont, MA  
Mr. John D. Podesta, Washington, DC  
Ambassador Richard K. Fox, Jr., Washington, DC  
Ms. Ellen Hume, Washington, DC

## **By the Majority Leader of the Senate**

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Pindars Corners, NY  
Professor Samuel P. Huntington, Boston, MA

## **By the Minority Leader of the Senate**

Senator Jesse Helms, Raleigh, NC  
Mrs. Alison B. Fortier, Chevy Chase, MD

## **By the Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Nashville, IN  
Mr. Maurice Sonnenberg, New York, NY

## **By the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives**

Representative Larry Combest, Lubbock, TX  
Mr. Martin C. Faga, Falls Church, VA

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COMMISSION  
ON  
PROTECTING AND REDUCING  
GOVERNMENT SECRECY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

(202) 776-8727

March 3, 1997

Dear Mr. President:

We hereby transmit the report of the Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy.

The Commission was created under Title IX of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (P.L. 103-236) to conduct "an investigation into all matters in any way related to any legislation, executive order, regulation, practice, or procedure relating to classified information or granting security clearances" and to submit a final report containing recommendations covering these areas. The Commission's investigation was the first authorized by statute to examine government secrecy in 40 years, and only the second ever.

The Commission's report is unanimous. It contains recommendations for actions by the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch, with the object of protecting *and* reducing secrecy in an era when open sources make a plenitude of information available as never before in history.

Respectfully submitted,

  
~~Patrick Moynihan~~  
Chairman

  
Larry Contest  
Vice Chairman

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, CHAIRMAN  
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Dear Mr. Speaker:

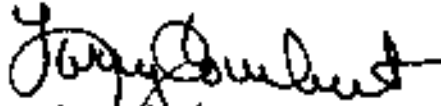
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Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Chairman

  
Larry Combest  
Vice Chairman

The Honorable Newt Gingrich  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Larry Combest  
Vice Chairman

The Honorable Richard A. Gephardt  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Chairman

  
Larry Combest  
Vice Chairman

The Honorable Trent Lott  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Larry Combest  
Vice Chairman

The Honorable Thomas A. Daschle  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510