MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPUTIES AND STAFF DIRECTORS, MDA

SUBJECT: Protection of Information Regarding Operational Deployments

(FOUO) Missile Defense Agency (MDA) personnel have an obligation and requirement to protect information related to the potential or actual operational deployment of MDA assets outside of the United States. There are many operational and political sensitivities that require varying levels of protection as we consider possible deployments. Therefore, I am requiring that potential host nations being studied or considered by MDA for operational deployments not be identified by country or city name in any form on Unclassified computer systems or networks not protected by Common Access Card (CAC) encryption and authentication, to include electronic documents, briefings, and e-mail. The names of multiple foreign countries and/or cities undergoing study for consideration as a host nation are not classified. However, to ensure they are properly protected, they must now be e-mailed or documented ONLY on Classified computer systems or networks, or via MDA Unclassified networks utilizing CAC encryption and authentication.

For the purposes of this direction, an operational deployment is one in which MDA assets are constructed or stationed in a foreign country for the primary purpose of defending the United States homeland or our deployed forces, friends, and allies. An operational deployment does not include a deployment of MDA assets for the primary purpose of testing and exercising the Ballistic Missile Defense System.

(FOUO) I anticipate that the Director, MDA will approve an interim change to the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS) Security Classification Guide (SCG) implementing specific deployment guidance based on topic 162.5 of the Forward Based X-Band (Transportable) (Fbx-T) Radar SCG. This interim guidance will be submitted for Original Classification Authority (OCA) approval subsequent to Agency coordination by the Security, Intelligence, and Special Programs Deputate (Sl). Upon OCA approval, it will be applicable across the Agency.

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Please ensure that all of your personnel are aware of the sensitivity and importance of this issue by giving this memo the widest possible dissemination throughout your organization. For further assistance please contact Kevan Gum, (703) 681-1400, or Mike Riley, (703) 681-1401.

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Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director