



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

MAY 18 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Oversight of Sensitive Activities

New approaches to fighting the Global War on Terror (GWOT), unauthorized collection and retention of personal information in government data bases, and unauthorized release of classified information are subjects of recent attention and scrutiny by Congress and the national media. These discussions reflect the absolute importance of early and continuous engagement by senior Army decision makers to ensure a common understanding of laws, policies, and procedures that inform our decisions.

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide my guidance regarding oversight of sensitive activities conducted, or supported, by our Army. Sensitive activities may include intelligence activities and military operations, organizational relationships or processes, and technological capabilities or vulnerabilities. These activities frequently, but not always, invoke additional enhanced security measures.

My intent is straightforward. I expect my oversight team to have an informed understanding of the Army's conduct of, or support to, sensitive activities, be actively engaged in the oversight of these activities, and ultimately help us all do things right.

I hold the Director, Technology Management Office (TMO), as the Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) central oversight office, responsible to develop policy for, implement, and report results of the HQDA process to provide oversight of sensitive activities. TMO teams with the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Office of the Judge Advocate General (TJAG), Office of the Army Inspector General (DAIG), the Army Audit Agency (AAA), ASA (ALT) Special Programs, the Army Finance Command (USAFINCOM), and the Field Investigative Unit (FIU) of the Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID) as significant partners in the oversight of sensitive activities.

I have three oversight objectives. First, that I approve our Army's conduct of, or support to, the most sensitive or unusual activities. I expect you to exercise your judgment as to those activities that should be forwarded for my approval even when you typically exercise approval authority for these sensitive, but otherwise routine, activities. Further, OGC, or any other member of my oversight team may determine that a particular activity warrants my approval, concurrence, or review.

Second, that sensitive activities requiring or warranting my approval, concurrence, or review are staffed through TMO. This includes, but is not limited to, Special Access Programs (SAPs), Alternate Compensatory Control Measures (ACCMs), or selected intelligence or operational information that is the subject of a report to, or decision by,

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the senior staff of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, or equivalent staffs of other DoD Components or other government agencies. Army activities approved by the Secretary of Defense in a deployment order or under the authority of a Combatant Commander are excluded.

Third, that TMO and my oversight team are afforded unfettered and continuing access to sensitive activities and information that they deem necessary to accomplish the oversight mission. This includes Army participation in the sensitive activities of other DoD components and other government agencies. I expect that you and your staff will be proactive in facilitating this access.

Our oversight must be a partnership. Therefore, I expect that you remain directly informed about your organization's participation in any Army, other DoD component, or other government agency sensitive activities including SAPs and ACCMs or equivalent programs. Additionally, I expect your support to ensure that a key general officer or member of the Senior Executive Service participates in a recurring internal review of sensitive activities, and that staffs which conduct or administer such activities receive security training.

The continued success of our Army requires the innovation, agility, and flexibility we bring to the fight. Your engagement and support to my oversight staff is essential to this process.

This policy will remain in place until rescinded or superseded.



Francis J. Harvey

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