(U) Decision as Original Classification Authority to Declassify Certain NSA Personnel Figures

(U) For the reasons specified in the Memorandum for the Record which accompanies this SPF, recommend you exercise your authority as an Original Classification Authority to declassify the following information, regardless of timeframe, effective immediately:

a) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW
b) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each of the surrounding states (Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania) and the District of Columbia
c) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each of the 8 Congressional districts of Maryland
d) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each county of Maryland and the city of Baltimore

(U) All other subsets of numbers of civilian employees at NSAW, including but not limited to breakdowns by operational element and occupational specialty, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

Concur: Nonconcur

JOANN H. GRUBE
Director of Policy

(U) Once you have concurred with this action, this information will be disseminated to all relevant entities.
MR: (U) The decision to declassify numbers of civilian personnel at NSA was made in response to a request from the Transition Team to provide the members of the Maryland Congressional delegation with the numbers of civilian employees in each of their districts at the unclassified level. The members had specifically requested this information.

(U//FOUO) Some confusion has existed regarding whether NSA has the authority to declassify personnel figures. While there is clear guidance stating that the DCI controls all budget information, there is no directive or other guidance stating his control over personnel figures. Neither are there any legal opinions or interpretations supporting such a position. The Community Management Staff could offer no definitive guidance regarding who controls NSA personnel figures.

(U//FOUO) In the absence of any specific guidance delineating control over personnel figures, the Director of Policy, as an Original Classification Authority, made the decision to declassify these figures, based on her belief that a) the director, NSA, controls NSA personnel figures, b) it is in NSA's best interests to declassify basic civilian personnel figures in order to be able to advocate more effectively for NSA, and c) there is no clearly demonstrated harm to the national security from disclosure of these figures.

Chief, Information Security Policy, DC322

19 Jan 01

Date

(b)(3)-F.L. 86-36
Subject: (U) Number of NSA Employees (Office of Policy)

QUESTION: (U) I just heard that the number of NSA employees is no longer classified. Is that true?

ANSWER: (U) As of January 2001, the following information has been declassified, regardless of timeframe:

a) (U) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW
b) (U) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each
   of the surrounding states (Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania) and the District of Columbia
c) (U) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each
   of the 8 congressional districts of Maryland
d) (U) the total number of civilian employees at NSAW who live in each
   county of Maryland and the City of Baltimore

(U) All other subsets of numbers of civilian employees at NSAW, including but not limited to breakdowns by operational element and occupational specialty, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) All personnel strength figures for other personnel at NSAW, including but not limited to military members, contractors, employees of other U.S. government elements, and foreign government employees, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) All personnel strength figures for NSA affiliates outside NSAW, including but not limited to the Regional Security Operations Centers and all CONUS and OCONUS field sites, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) In this context, "civilian employee" is defined as a U.S. government civilian employee directly employed by NSA.

(U) In this context, "NSAW" is defined as the NSA headquarters complex at Fort Meade, Maryland and all other NSA facilities in the state of Maryland.
NSA STAFF PROCESSING FORM

TO
DC3

THRU
D/DC3

SUBJECT
(U) Decision as Original Classification Authority to Declassify Additional NSA Personnel Figures

DISTRIBUTION
DC3, DC32, DC321, DC322, DC323, PAO, D7P, INSCOM, AIA, NSG

SUMMARY
BACKGROUND: (U) On 24 January 2001, exercising your authority as an OCA, you declassified the total number of civilian employees at NSA and several subsets of this number, regardless of timeframe (see attached).

DISCUSSION: (U) It is becoming increasingly evident that the logical follow on to this action is to declassify: 1) the total number of military personnel at NSA and 2) the total number of civilian and military personnel at NSA. Total personnel strength at NSA is an often requested number, frequently needed by other government agencies, the military services, Members of Congress, and local government. If both the total personnel strength and the number of civilian employees are declassified, the number of military should also be declassified because it then could easily be determined. There appears to be no clearly demonstrated harm to the national security from disclosure of these figures. Numbers of other personnel employed at NSA, to include contractors, employees of other government agencies, and foreign personnel, would continue to be protected.

(U) The total number of military personnel at NSA is defined as the total number of military personnel on USSID 1, 2, 3, or 4000 billets at NSA, either actual billets or assigned. All subsets of this number, including but not limited to, the number of military personnel at NSA from each military service, the number of military personnel in each billet category, and the number of military personnel assigned to specific elements or entities at NSA, will remain classified.

RECOMMENDATION: (U) Recommend that the following be declassified, effective immediately, regardless of timeframe:

1) the total number of military personnel at NSA.
2) the total number of civilian and military personnel at NSA.

Concur: [Signature]
Nonconcur: ____________________

COORDINATION/APPROVAL

OFFICE
DC32
D7P
AIA
NSG
INSCOM

NAME AND DATE
[Signature], 3/6/01
[Signature], 3/21/01
[Signature], 3/22/01
[Signature], 3/22/01
[Signature], 3/27/01

SECURE PHONE
4166s
4166s
973-6171
962-3528
964-7221

OFFICE
MC4

NAME AND DATE
mail, 3/26/01

SECURE PHONE
968-6121

ORG.
DC32

PHONE (Secure)
963-4582

DATE PREPARED
26 March 01

FORM 4278 REV NOV 95
(Supersedes A4795 FEB 94
which is obsolete)
NSN 7540-001-5465

Derived From:
Declassify On:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
U/FOUO
Subject: (U) More NSA Personnel Figures Declassified (Office Of Policy)

(U) In the NSA On-Line article, "Number of NSA Employees," posted on March 14, 2001, we informed you that the total number of NSA civilian employees at NSAW had been declassified, regardless of timeframe.

(U) On 2 April 2001, the Director of Policy made the decision to declassify the following NSA personnel figures, regardless of timeframe:

1. (U) The total number of military personnel at NSAW

2. (U) The total number of civilian and military personnel at NSAW

(U) The total number of military personnel at NSAW is defined as the total number of military personnel on USSID 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 billets at NSAW, either actual billets or assigned. All subsets of this number, including but not limited to the number of military personnel at NSAW from each military service, the number of military personnel at NSAW in each billet category, and the number of military personnel assigned to specific elements or entities at NSAW, remain classified.

(U) All other subsets of numbers of employees at NSAW, including but not limited to breakdowns by operational element or occupational specialty, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) All personnel strengths for other personnel at NSAW, including but not limited to contractors, employees of other U.S. government elements, and foreign government employees, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) All personnel strengths for NSA affiliates outside NSAW, including but not limited to the Regional Security Operations Centers and all CONUS and OCONUS field sites, remain classified unless specifically determined by the Office of Policy to be unclassified.

(U) In this context, "NSAW" is defined as the NSA headquarters complex at Fort Meade, Maryland, as well as all other NSA facilities in the state of Maryland.

Information Security Policy, DC322, 963-4582, 04/13/01
Lerner, Rona L (CIV-NSA)  DC323

From: Lerner, Rona L  DC323
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2001 12:24 PM
To: REDACT  SC4; DECLASS (N5P5)  DC322
Cc:  language training/military personnel numbers

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

1. (U) Sorry, y'all, but we're going back to the previous guidance on training by NSA personnel at other government agencies. The guidance is LG-Miscellaneous is hereby returned to its earlier rendition:

(G) Languages -

Operational association of a specific language with NSA or NSA employees must be redacted unless the operational use of the language has been declassified (see Operational Use of Languages).

Teaching of specific languages at the National Cryptologic School (NCS) or the Defense Language Institute (DLI) at Monterey, California is releasable.

The fact that an NSA employee takes a specific language course at NCS is releasable.

The fact that an NSA employee takes Russian at the United States Army Russian Institute (USARI) is releasable.

2. (U) The number of military personnel assigned to NSA has been declassified by DC322 SPF of 26 March 01. Our guidance in LG-Miscellaneous will be changed accordingly. In addition, the SPF points out that the numbers of contractors, employees of other U.S. government agencies and numbers of foreign personnel are classified. DC322 was under pressure to declassify the numbers of military personnel at NSA. They are not under pressure to declassify any other numbers (e.g., number of military personnel living in Maryland or the total number of contractors employed at NSA), so those items remain classified.

(U) Personnel Strengths - The following are releasable for all time frames:

- the total number of employees at NSA
- the total number of civilian employees at NSA
- the total number of military employees/assignees at NSA
- the total number of civilian employees at NSA who live in each of the surrounding states (Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania) and the District of Columbia
- the total number of civilian employees at NSA who live in each of the 8 congressional districts of Maryland
- the total number of civilian employees at NSA who live in each county of Maryland and the city of Baltimore

This guidance is specific to the items listed above. All other figures (e.g., subsets of these items, numbers of contractors, numbers of employees of other U.S. government agencies assigned to NSA, numbers of foreign personnel) require 25X3 protection. Examples of information requiring protection are the number of linguists employed by NSA, the number of linguists employed by NSA and the number of linguists employed by NSA.

[Rationale: The impetus for this declassification the numbers of civilian employees was a request by the NSA Presidential Transition Team for the declassification of the numbers of NSA civilians who live in each local Congressional district. Members of Congress asked for these figures. Members of Congress...
representing local districts are not interested in the number of military personnel since most maintain residency in their home state.]

[Source 1/25/01 e-mail from C322 and 2/14/01 e-mail from C322; numbers of military employees declassified per DC322 SPF of 26 Mar 01]

Rona Lerner
DC323
972-2352 688-7786
SAB II, STE 8884

DRV FM: NSA/CSSM 123-2
Dated: 24 Feb 98
DECL ON: X1

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
NSA STAFF PROCESSING FORM

TO: DC3
THRU: D/DC3
SUBJECT: (U) Decision as Original Classification Authority to Declassify Population Figures for the “Big Four”

DISTRIBUTION: DC3, DC32, DC321, DC322, DC323, DC09, D05, PAO, MC4, MC4, DF212, ME1

BACKGROUND: (U) On 24 January 2001, exercising your authority as an OCA, you declassified the total number of civilian employees at NSA, regardless of timeframe. On 2 April, exercising your authority as an OCA, you declassified the total number of military personnel at NSA, regardless of timeframe, and the total number of military and civilian personnel at NSA, regardless of timeframe.

DISCUSSION: (U) The NSA Office of Occupational Health and Safety Services (OHESS) has approached us with a request to release the population figures for each of the “Big Four” buildings on the Fort Meade campus: Ops1, Headquarters, Ops2A, and Ops2B. The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), a government body, is considering including NSA in a national study on building-related asthma and, in conjunction with this study, made a preliminary visit to NSA, 30 April-3 May 2001. OHESS would very much like to participate in the asthma study. In order to provide meaningful statistical data to NIOSH on the incidence of indoor air quality (IAQ) customer complaints in the “Big Four,” it would be necessary to provide the total population of each building so that the number of IAQ complaints in each building can be weighed against the total population of the building to determine the significance.

RECOMMENDATION: (U/TOUO) The Information Security Policy office has coordinated this proposal with the Office of Security and the Office of Financial Plan and Manpower Management, both of which have concurred with the proposal. Therefore, we recommend that you authorize the declassification of the total population figures for each of the “Big Four” buildings on the Fort Meade campus: Ops1, Headquarters, Ops2A and Ops2B.

CONCUR: [Signature]

NONCONCUR: 

COORDINATION/APPROVAL

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ORG: DC322
PHNCE (Secure): 963-4582
DATE PREPARED: 16 May 01

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: U/TOUO