

# (U) Report on Congressional Notification of Sensitive Military Operations and Counterterrorism Operational Briefings

Submitted in compliance with the reporting requirement contained in sections 1041 and 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (P.L. 113-66)



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(U) This report is provided pursuant to the requirement in section 1041 and 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (P.L. 113-66). Section 1041 provides that the Secretary of Defense shall establish and submit to the congressional defense committees procedures for notifying in writing the congressional defense committees of certain military operations. Section 1042 provides that the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly briefings outlining Department of Defense counterterrorism operations and related activities.

(U) Notification of Sensitive Military Operations

~~(TS//NF)~~ 10 U.S.C. 130f requires notice in writing to the congressional defense committees following certain military operations. Additionally, the Presidential Policy Guidance (PPG) on "Procedures for Approving Direct Action Against Terrorist Targets Located Outside the United States and Areas of Active Hostilities" requires prompt notification to appropriate Members of Congress when an operational plan is approved, when authority is expanded for directing lethal force against targets other than identified high-valued targets (HVTs), and after a direct action operation subject to the PPG is conducted.

~~(TS//NF)~~ The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy is responsible for drafting, coordinating, approving, and delivering appropriate written and oral notifications to the Chairman and the ranking minority member of the Armed Services Committees and the Defense Appropriations Subcommittees within 48 hours after a lethal operation or capture operation conducted by U.S. Armed Forces outside the United States and Afghanistan. Written notifications will contain, as applicable:

(b) (1)



~~(S)~~ The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence will provide appropriate notifications to the Intelligence Committees following written notifications to the Armed Services Committees and Defense Appropriations Subcommittees.

~~(TS//NF)~~ Notifications for new operational plans, or expansion of authorities under existing operational plans, will be submitted to Congress within seven days after receipt of notification of approval from the National Security Council (NSC) staff.

(U) Quarterly Counterterrorism Operations Briefings

~~(TS//NF)~~ The PPG and 10 U.S.C. 485 also require that appropriate Members of Congress will be provided, no less than every three months, updates on certain counterterrorism matters. The Under Secretaries of Defense for Policy and Intelligence will collaborate on these updates to ensure uniform presentation to the congressional defense and intelligence oversight committees.

(U) Each quarterly briefing will include the following:

1. (U) A global update on activity within each geographic Combatant Command and how such activity supports the respective theater campaign plan;
2. (U) An overview of authorities and legal issues, including limitations;
3. (U) An overview of interagency activities and initiatives;
4. (U) Any other matters the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate; and
5. ~~(TS)~~ ~~(U)~~ ~~(S)~~ 