

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

18 February 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT BOARD

THRU: Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight)

SUBJECT: (U//FOUO) Report to the Intelligence Oversight Board on NSA Activities - INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

(U//FOUO) Except as previously reported to you or the President, or otherwise stated in the enclosure, we have no reason to believe that any intelligence activities of the National Security Agency during the quarter ending 30 September 2009 were unlawful or contrary to Executive Order or Presidential Directive and thus should have been reported pursuant to Section 1.6(c) of Executive Order 12333.

(U//FOUO) The Inspector General and the General Counsel continue to exercise oversight of Agency activities by inspections, surveys, training, review of directives and guidelines, and advice and counsel. These activities and other data requested by the Board or members of the staff of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight) are described in the enclosure.

GEORGE ELJARD

PATRICK J. REYNOLDS

Acting General Counsel

(U//FOUO) I concur in the report of the Inspector General and the General Counsel and hereby make it our combined report.

KEIMH B. ALEXANDER Lieutenant General, U. S. Army Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

Encl:

Quarterly Report

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TOP SECRET//COMINT//NOFORN

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(b)	(\perp)

(b) (3) -18 USC 798

(b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

(b)(1) (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

1. (U//FOUO) Intelligence, counterintelligence, and intelligence-related activities that violate law, regulation, or policy substantiated during the quarter, as well as actions taken as a result of the violations

(U) Intelligence Activities				
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Unintentiona				
This quarter, there wereinstances in which inadventently terreted are cell standard and in the control of th				
inadvertently targeted or collected communicat	ions to, from, or ab	out United State	es (U.S.)	
persons while pursuing foreign intelligence task or destroyed as required by United States SIGI	NT Directive (USS	s and reports na	ve been deleted	
of destroyed as required by Officed States Stori	NT Directive (USS	iD) SP0016.		
(S//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Tra	vel to the United St	tates During th	nis reporting	
period, valid foreign targets	the United		ns reporting	
			\	
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) On	NSA analysts	learned that	of their	
targets had arrived in the United States on				
	ction was suspende			
intercept obtained while the targets were in the			NSA database	
No reports were issued from	n the deleted interce	ept.	(b) (1) (b) (3)-P.L.	06.3
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) An NSA analys	et failed to check hi	is target's telent	/ / /	86-36
when he learned on that his t			lector was	
	selectors were deta	2.00000	ector was	
A report based on unintentionally collected don			foreign	
intelligence information was issued to the				
as allowed by Attorney Genera	al authorized proced	dures and NSA	reporting	
policy.			(b) (1)	
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Analyst error p	and the time solonton		(b) (3)-P.L.	86-36
three days while the associated foreign intellige				
the analyst submitted the selec				
the United States.		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
	The dis	screpancy was f	found and	
	ctor was detasked a	and collection w	vas purged from	
NSA databases.				
(TC//CI//DEL TO UCA EVEV C. I		6.11	. 121	
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Collection occur he was in the United States. On	an NSA analyst lea			
traveled to the United States on	an INSA analyst ica	arried that the ta	ilget	
an erea to the Onited States on				
Collection was purged from an NSA database of	on		A Commence of the Commence of	
			(b) (1)	

Derived From: NSA/CSSM 1-52

Dated: 20070108

(b) (3) - P.L. 86 - 36

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		JSA, FVEY) An NSA an	alyst overlooked	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	e detasked a	
	foreign intelligence			the Un	nited States on	
		The selector was found			intercept	
	collected while the	target was in the United	States was purged	from an NSA datab	oase on	
		(b) (1)				
	(U) Tasking Error	(b) (3)-P.L.	86-36			

	(TS//SI//NF) A U.S	3. telephone number was	mistakenly tasked	for collection.		
	an NSA anal	yst tasked a telephone nu	imber believed to l	be associated with a	foreign	
	intelligence target.		The same of the sa		**************	
	a U.S. number.	The selector was detasked	ed on	resultin	ng intercept	
	was purged. No re	ports were issued on the	collection.		(b) (1)	
				and the second s	(b) $(3) - P.L.$	86-36
	(TS//SI//NF)	an NSA I	anguage analyst le	arned that		
	tasked telephone nu	ımber selectors believed			gets. The	
	resulting collection	of calls was deleted	and the selectors	were detasked on		
	No reporting was p	roduced based on the col	lection.			
			(b) (1)			
	(U) Database Que	ries		-50 USC 3024(i)		
	(- /		(D) (d)	-P.L. 86-36		
	(TS//SI//NF) On	occasions, analysts cons	structed poor datab	pase queries that had	d the effect of	
	targeting U.S. perso	ons in databases with unr	ninimized SIGINT	information, and o	on of those	
		ies returned results from				
		e queries were deleted, a				
	contributed to				(b) (1)	
					(b) (3) -P.L. 8	6-36
	 (TS//SI/NF) 	an NS	SA analyst queried	la		
		n NSA database. The er			ot perform	
				the query. The que		
		s which were deleted on		reporting was issue	•	
	query result		. 10	reporting was issue	d bused on the	
	11.00					
	• (TS//SI//NF	4				
2000 - 100 -		***************************************				
)~(·1.)	700				}	
)(3)-18 USC)(3)-50 USC		- t	he database audito	or found the error. T	The analyst	
)(3)-P.L. 8	6 26	query results on		rned from leave. The		
		d prior to deletion.	when he retu	med from leave. 11	ne results were	
	not reviewe	a prior to actetion.				
	· (TS//SI//DE	L TO USA, FVEY)	lan N	ISA analyst queried	on NIS A	
	database		100 m	e target while the ta		
					ilget was in the	
	United State	es. The analyst mistaken			esulting	
	intonout	o nurged from the NICA		micu states.	coulding	
	intercept wa	is purged from the NSA	uatabase on			
				** Afde a way		
					b)(1) b)(3)-P.L. 86-3	6
				(-		part.

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(b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

	human error resulted in the targeting of a U.S. telephone
	number, A SIGINT analyst
	of a foreign intelligence target in an NSA database containing
	unminimized and unevaluated SIGINT data. The query and results were deleted
	No reports were issued.
	• (TS//SI/NF) an NSA analyst queried U.S. Communications
para di mana d	Security (COMSEC) telephone numbers in an NSA database. The query
A Branch and the second	returned results. The data retrieved by the query had aged off of the database by
da d	annuman munitan
a) (1)	
o) (3) -P.L. 86-36	• (TS//SI//NF)
	• (S//SI//NI) while reviewing skills learned in a query tool training
	class, an NSA analyst queried on himself and another U.S. person The
	analyst explained that he thought the query tool was a training version. This violation
	was found by the analyst's auditor. No collection resulted from the mistake. The analyst
	completed additional USSID SP0018 training and was counseled that targeting U.S. persons was not authorized at any time.
	persons was not authorized at any time.
	a SIGINT analyst targeted a U.S. telephone number
	when querying a telephone number believed to be used by a valid foreign intelligence
	target. The mistake occurred because the analyst The
	query did not return any results and was deleted when the analyst
	returned from leave. No reports were issued.
	an NSA analyst queried an
	The analyst believed that it could be queried
	because No collection resulted from the
	query and no reports were issued.
	TOWARD NO.
	• (TS//SI//NF) an NSA analyst inadvertently targeted a U.S. while researching information on associated with a valid foreign target.
	while researching information on associated with a valid foreign target. The erroneous query was detected by an auditor. The query produced
	results; however, no reports were issued based on the query. The analyst detasked
	the selector
	(TS//SI//NF) an NSA analyst performed a query on
	that resulted in the collection of U.S. data due to a system error
	The analyst deleted the results without reviewing them
	(b) (1)

⁽b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

DOCID: 41	TOP SECRET//COMINT//NOFORN (b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
•	human error resulted in the targeting of the U.S. persons. An NSA analyst performed queries The queries yielded a total of results. The analyst deleted the queries and query results on reporting was issued based on the queries.
b) (1) b) (3) P. L. 86-36	(TS//SI/NF) an NSA analyst queried a raw SIGINT database using After realizing the mistake, the analyst immediately deleted the query and results from the database. No SIGINT reporting was produced from the query results.
	an NSA analyst performed a query on in a raw SIGINT database while researching a foreign intelligence target. The mistake occurred because the analyst was not familiar with using the database. The analyst deleted the query and results that same day.
•	(TS//SI/NF) During an audit of an NSA database auditors noted that an analyst had queried on The error occurred when the analyst copied and pasted the another. After realizing the error, the analyst deleted the query information was disseminated.
(U) (One End of the Communication in the United States (b) (1) (b) (3) -50 USC 3024 (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
SIGI	NT By agreement, pursuant to Executive Order 12333, unminimized
•	(S//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY)
(U) E	(b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36 (TS://SI://REL TO USA, FVEY) selectors associated with a valid foreign
	intelligence target remained on tasking after the target entered the United States on The NSA analyst detasked the selectors on
b)(1) b)(3)-P.L. 86-36	after returning from leave. No collection occurred between and

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telephone selectors related to a U.S. hostage in

detasked for two days following the hostage's release. The NSA analyst/was notified by

at which time the selectors were detasked. While

(b) (1) (b) (3)-50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

were not

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NSA's Attorney General authorized procedures allow the targeting of U.S. persons reasonably believed to be held captive by foreign powers, collection should have ceased when the hostage was released. No collection occurred from the unauthorized targeting, and no reports were issued for that timeframe.

		(15//SI//KEL 10 t	(SA, FVEY) A selector bel	longing to a foreign intellig	gence target was
		not detasked when	the target traveled to the U	nited States on two separat	e occasions, in
		one case due to a se	oftware problem in the		Although an
		NSA analyst detasl	ked the e-mail selector on		
			failed to de	etask the selector. The ana	lyst did not
		verify the detasking	g and was not aware of the		On/
			nalyst was	-	
		from	The analyst detasked	d	· ·
		1	The state of the s		
			No reports were issue	ed. The software problem	was not corrected
		by the end of the re	porting quarter, but a proce		
			es not occur. We will prov		
		has been resolved.	piet.	are an apoute men men men	
					(b) (1) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
		(TS//SI//NF) Huma	in error caused targeting of	HS persons beyond the d	
			on agreements. Targeting		
		and		se NSA analysts did not rev	
			No collection resulted from		
		from a lack of train	ing for new personnel, pers	connel transition, and many	over chartage
		To reduce the risk	of recurrence, the organizat	ion created	ower shortages.
		1.0 100000 1110 11011		orization's expiration.	
			before each author	mization s expiration.	
		(TS//SI//NE) Huma	in error resulted in the targe	eting of a U.S. person wher	an analyet
		targeted a	ar onor resured in the targe	ding of a C.S. Derson when	a foreign
(b) (1)			The analyst did not consid	er that this could retrieve r	egulte on the
(b) $(3) - 18$ USC	: 798 : 30247		e reviewing the query result		
(b) $(3) - P.L. 8$	6-36		e analyst deleted the query		
			ts were issued. The analys		
		queries.	is were issued. The analys	t was counseled on now to	
		querres.			(b) (1) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
	(TCH)	Disseminat	ion of U.S. identities T	ha NSA Enterprise issued	SIGINT
			quarter. In those reports, S		
		nunications to, from,		ns or entities obtained while	
		in intelligence targets		ucts were cancelled as NSA	
\	-		ned of the U.S. persons, org		
			tion. The data was deleted		
			ued with proper minimizati		s were not
	101550	ed of they were reiss	ued with proper minimizati	011.	
	(6//61	WREL TO USA, FVI	21/2		
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(b) (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

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(b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024 (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36	(i)
(U) The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA)	
(U) Unauthorized Targeting	
(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) On an NSA analyst reviewing selector learned that a foreign target had traveled to the United States the analyst deleted the and instructed branch personnel to delete an e-mail No reports were issued based on the collection.	rs
on a FISC order remained on tasking	et
The selector remains tasked from No reporting was issued from the intercepts collected from the selector. (TS//SI//NF) an NSA analyst targeted a U.S. person before proper authorization had been obtained. The analyst immediately deleted the query after realizing the the selector belonged to a U.S. person. No collection resulted from the query.	on
(U) Database Queries (E) (3)-P.L. 86-36 (TS//SI//NF) On occasions, SIGINT reports were cancelled and not reissued. During a post-publication review, the NSA organizations were mentioned in the reports. On the first occasion was listed, and in the remaining reports, an association was mentioned. The reports were reissued with proper minimization. The cancelled SIGINT reports are included in the ite	m
above on unintentional dissemination of U.S. identities. (b) (1) (b) (3) -18 (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36 (b) (3) -P.	
(S//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) an NSA database developer noted that a database contained FISA data older than the retention time authorized by the court. The data was discovered during a review of All files containing the FISA data were moved To prevent future retention errors, the developers have and implemented	
FISA data and permanently remove FISA data older than one year.	
(TS://SI:/NF) Business Records (BR) Order (b) (3)-P.L. 86	5-36
(TS//SI//NF) Business Records Order On 17 and 22 September 2009, an NSA analyst forwarded reports and an e-mail to cleared personnel who had not received require specialized BR training.	
(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36 TOP SECRET//COMINT//NOFORN (b) (1) (b) (3) -50 USC 3024 (i	1

(b) (3)-50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

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(b) (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

	(TS//SI//NF) Pen Register/Trap and Trace (PR/TT) Order
	(TS//SI//NF) an NSA analyst initiated a query beyond the authorized number
	of hops from an approved PR/TT seed address. The analyst was using an earlier version of a
	software tool The query did not produce any results.
	The latest version of the tool was implemented
	(TS//SI//NF)
	(U) The Protect America Act (PAA)
	(U) Nothing to report.
	(U) The FISA Amendments Act (FAA)
	(b)(3)-50 USC 3024(i) (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36
	(U) Section 702
	(U) Targeting
	(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) A software error caused a foreign intelligence target, tasked
	under the FAA Certification, to remain on collection at NSA
	while the target was in the United States. The software error
	occurred on and lasted only two minutes. While preventing the complete detasking of the selector, the detasking interface indicated a successful detasking. The error was
	found The selector was
	detasked between Research to determine if other tasked selectors were
	affected by the same software error was conducted. No other selectors were affected. All
	resulting collection was purged from NSA databases, and no reports were issued from the
	collection. (b) (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
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	(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) On an NSA analyst erroneously interpreted data and targeted a non-U.S. person without sufficient basis to believe that the target
	had left the United States. The selector was detasked on collection obtained for that
	time period was purged from NSA databases, and no reports were issued.
	(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) Selectors tasked on for a foreign
	intelligence target were detasked on on the advice of the NSA OGC. Upon
	review and discussions with the tasking analyst, the OGC
	attorney determined NSA had insufficient justification to task the selectors. Data collected from
	the selectors was purged from NSA databases and no reports
	were issued from the collection.
	(b) (1)
	(b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36 TOP SECRET//COMINT//NOFORN

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7	U) Detasking Delay			
t; tl u fe (B):(1) tl	nable to enact the detasking ound the software mistake or	Certification runtil NSA analyst attempte because her detasking	ed to detask the target privileges had been cl	while the targets were in s' selectors but was
d e R	etasking of a selector mail selector on esearch revealed that the se system to ignore the detas	when it sent duplicate detask	ted States. NSA atter	mpted to detask the e United States. king system, causing
				(b) (1) (b) (3) 50 USC 3024(i)
	an NSA analyst found t		FAA selecto	r review 86-36 issed when the target's
(b) (1)	nited States. The selector w	as detasked and no reports were is		n resulted between
(b) (3) -P.L. 86-	S//SI//REL TO USA, FVE	Human error resulted	d in a delay in detaski	
		asked on d resulting collection w sulted from the unautho		to detask the selector was SA database
C Si de		d in time to avoid colled Although the NSA and	ction when the target alvst submitted the de Consequently, s collected before the	entered the United etasking request on the selector was not
- / /	or the intercept. Dissemination			(b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
1 1 11	SIGINT reptelligence target tasked unde	orts were cancelled and	not reissued. In the Certification	first report, a foreign
(b)(1) (b)(3)-P.L	. 86-36	TOP SECRET//COMP	VT//NOFORN	(b) (1) (b) (3)-50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

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United States. Other reports, all on the same foreign intelligence target tasked under FAA Certification, were cancelled when NSA analysts learned that the target was a naturalized U.S. citizen. The cancelled SIGINT reports are included in the aforementioned section on the dissemination of U.S. identities.
(S//REL TO USA, FVEY) an NSA analyst forwarded FAA data to NSA personnel, some of whom were not authorized to view FAA data. The e-mail was recalled and recipients deleted copies
(U) Section 704 (b) (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
(U) Nothing to report
(U) Section 705b
(U) Database Queries
an NSA analyst did not perform due diligence prior to conducting a query in response to request for information. The analyst who is the subject matter expert on the foreign intelligence target was on leave, so another analyst researched the request. Although the analyst was not told that the was a U.S. person who was previously the subject of FAA 705b coverage, the analyst should have fully researched the target prior to acquiring data on a foreign intelligence target. The analyst failed to check the expiration of the court order prior to his query. The court order had expired on The mistake was found by the subject matter expert when he returned from The queried data was deleted No data was disseminated to and no reports were issued. (b) (1) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-3 (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) an NSA analyst mistakenly queried a foreign intelligence target's selector in a NSA database The analyst realized the error and deleted the query results on No reports were issued on the query results.
(U) Other (b) (1) (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
(U) Unauthorized Access
(U) Computer Network Exploitation (CNE)
(TS//SI//NF)

⁽b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

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	(TS//SV/NF)	(b) (1) (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) 50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3) -1.1. 86-36
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:	(TS//SI//NF)	
	(U) Dissemination (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) a SIGINT analyst sent as unminimized U.S. person data to a customer and an NSA data repository. discovered by the recipient, who deleted the e-mail and requested a minimanalyst subsequently deleted the e-mail and resent the e-mail with minimal containing unminimized U.S. data sent to the data repository was deleted	nized version. The ized data. The copy
	(U) Collection (b) (c) (b) (c) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d	1) 3)-P.L. 86-36
	(TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY) selectors were by an analyst who was unaware that did not have authorization to Responsibility for the selectors was transferred to an NSA Washington or to conduct FAA-related tasking.	e tasked at a task under the FAA.
	(U) Counterintelligence Activities	
	(U) Nothing to report.	

DOCID: 4165579 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36 (b)(1)(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36 (U) Intelligence-related Activities (TS//SI//NF) To reduce the risk of unauthorized telephony collection and prevent violations, NSA instituted a process to give analysts greater and faster insight into a target's location. In the instances when collection occurred, it was purged from NSA databases. (TS//SI//NE) NSA analysts found e-mail selectors Collection occurred in instances and was purged from NSA databases. (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36 (TS//SI//REL TO USA; FVEY) Although not violations of E.O. 12333 and related directives, NSA/CSS reports instances in which database access was not terminated when access was no longer required. Once identified, the accesses were terminated. Additionally, there were two instances of account sharing. an instructor in a training class accessed the computer and SIGINT database account of a student and queried a fictitious selector. The instructor was teaching the class at a location away from NSA Headquarters, and could not access his computer account or database. Two problems occurred. The first is that the instructor accessed another's computer and database account. The second is that he did not yet his fictitious query to ensure the selector did not belong to a U.S. person. An analyst stopped the instructor and deleted the results of the database query. that two SIGINT analysts were using a third analyst's account to access NSA databases. Although the two analysts were authorized to access the databases, their actions violated NSA computer security policies. The analysts' database accounts were disabled and later restored due to critical mission support requirements. 2. (U/#FOUO) NSA Office of the Inspector General Intelligence Oversight Inspections, Investigations, and Special Studies (U//FOUO) During this quarter, the OIG reviewed various intelligence activities of the NSA/CSS to determine whether they had been conducted in accordance with statutes, Executive Orders, Attorney General procedures, and Department of Defense (DoD) and internal directives. With few exceptions, the problems uncovered were routine and showed that operating elements understand the restrictions on NSA/CSS activities. (U//FOUO) Misuse of the U.S. SIGINT System (USSS) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36 an Army analyst assigned to the reportedly queried n violation of

(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

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USSID SP0018. Reportedly, the analyst queried the foreign numbers to aid in learning the language. The analyst's action was not in support of his official, mission-related duties. The analyst's database access and his access to classified information have been suspended.
(U) Congressional, IOB, and DNI Notifications (b) (1) (b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(S//SI//NF) NSA orally notified the Congressional Oversight Committees that. errors, raw data gathered for Computer Security (COMSEC) purposes was available to non-COMSEC elements at NSA.
While no U.S. person data was included in any SIGINT reporting, these errors violated procedures outlined in the National Telecommunications and Information Systems Security Directive (NTISSD 600) that restrict access to raw COMSEC data to personnel authorized to perform the COMSEC mission. NSA has taken appropriate action to correct the errors. 3. (U) Substantive Changes to the NSA/CSS Intelligence Oversight Program
(U) Nothing to report.
4. (U) Changes to NSA/CSS published directives or policies concerning intelligence, counterintelligence, or intelligence-related activities and the reason for the changes
(U) Nothing to report. (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36
5. (U) Procedures governing the activities of DoD intelligence components that affect U.S. persons (DoD Directive 5240.1-R, Procedure 15) Inquiries or Matters Related to Intelligence Oversight Programs
(U) Nothing to report.