



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES  
1155 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155



FEB 20 2020

John Greenewald, Jr.  
27305 W. Live Oak Rd.  
Suite #1203  
Castaic, CA 91384

Subject: OSD MDR Case 18-M-0802

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

We have reviewed the enclosed document in consultation with the Joint Staff (JS) and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). CIA has no objection to declassification in full. JS has declassified it in part. The excised information is exempt from declassification under Executive Order 13526, section 3.3(b)(5), which protects information that could be expected to reveal formally named or numbered U.S. military war plans that remain in effect, or reveal operational or tactical elements of prior plans that are contained in such active plans.

OSD stands as the appellate authority and will coordinate any appeals regarding this case. A written appeal must be filed within 60 days explaining the rationale for reversal of the decision. Reference should be made to OSD MDR Case 18-M-0802. Letters of appeal should be sent to the following address:

WHS/ESD Records, Privacy,  
and Declassification Division  
Attention: Luz D. Ortiz  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Suite 02F09-02  
Alexandria, VA 22350-3100

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Jonathan P. Bennett by email at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.records-and-declassification@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.records-and-declassification@mail.mil).

Sincerely,

John D. Smith  
Deputy Chief, WHS, Records, Privacy, and  
Declassification Division, ESD

Enclosures:

1. MDR request
2. Document 1



This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

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#1

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~~SECRET~~  
Department of Defense  
**DIRECTIVE**

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: DEC 03 2019

July 26, 1984  
NUMBER S-3321.1

USD(P)

**SUBJECT:** Overt Psychological Operations Conducted by the Military Services in Peacetime and in Contingencies Short of Declared War (U)

- References:**
- (a) Executive Order 12333, "United States Intelligence Activities," December 4, 1981
  - (b) Department of Defense - Central Intelligence Agency ~~(S)~~, "Command Relationships Agreement" (U), February 27, 1957
  - (c) Department of Defense - Central Intelligence Agency ~~(S)~~, "Establishment and Control of Unconventional Assets and Operations in Support of Overt Military Operations ~~(S)~~," June 10, 1958
  - (d) through (j), see enclosure 1

**A. PURPOSE**

(U) In conjunction with references (a) through (j) this Directive establishes policy, provides procedures, and assigns responsibilities for the planning, development, programing, direction, execution, and control of overt psychological operations conducted by the Department of Defense in peacetime and in contingencies short of declared war.

**B. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE**

1. (U) This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, and the Defense Agencies (hereafter referred to collectively as "DoD Components"). The term "U.S. Military Services," as used herein, refers to the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, and, in time of war, to the Coast Guard.
2. (U) It applies to all contracts with contractors or consultants engaged to support psychological operations and all agreements with U.S. Government agencies by which a DoD Component provides or receives support for psychological operations.
3. (U) Under E.O. 12333 (reference (a)), unattributed (covert) peacetime psychological operations are special activities that may be conducted or supported by a DoD Component only when specifically directed by the President.

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Date:

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C. DEFINITIONS

1. (U) Psychological Operations. For purposes of this Directive, planned political, economic, military, and ideological activities directed towards foreign countries, organizations, and individuals in order to create emotions, attitudes, understanding, beliefs, or behavior favorable to the achievement of U.S. political and military objectives.

2. (U) Contingencies short of declared war. Situations determined by the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy in which lives of U.S. citizens or property of the U.S. Government or U.S. citizens or interests vital to U.S. national security are threatened.

D. POLICY

1. (C) It is DoD policy that psychological operations, which are an effective and essential instrument of national policy, shall be conducted by DoD Components and supported when undertaken by other U.S. Government agencies. Psychological operations are an integral part of military operations and, as such, they are an inherent responsibility of all military commanders.

2. (S) In peacetime and contingencies short of war, other than for training, psychological operations shall be conducted pursuant only to an approved psychological operations program. Psychological operations shall be used to achieve the following objectives:

a. 

JS 3.3 (b)(5)

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3. (C) Psychological operations shall be conducted only against foreign states, populations, organizations, and individuals.

4. (C) Before psychological operations are conducted, consideration shall be given to any adverse effect the operation or the revelation of the operation may have.

5. (U) Approval for a psychological operations program shall not exceed 1 year unless specifically authorized.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. (U) The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, or designee, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall:

a. (U) Act as principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense on psychological operations matters.

b. (U) Develop DoD psychological operations policy.

c. (U) Coordinate psychological operations policy, plans, and programs with other U.S. Government agencies.

d. (U) Evaluate the effectiveness of DoD psychological operations programs.

e. (U) Review and approve all psychological operations programs to be conducted during peacetime or in contingencies short of declared war.

2. (U) The Assistant Secretaries of Defense (International Security Affairs) and (International Security Policy), in coordination with the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall provide assistance and advice to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the development of specific psychological operations programs affecting their geographical areas of responsibility.

3. (U) The General Counsel, Department of Defense, shall review all proposed psychological operations programs to be conducted in peacetime or during contingencies short of declared war.

4. (U) The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall develop and maintain programs, forces, and capabilities necessary to conduct and support psychological operations in peacetime and during contingencies short of declared war; and provide the resources needed to sustain these programs, forces, and capabilities.

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Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date:

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5. (U) The Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:

- a. (U) Develop operational concepts, joint doctrine, and plans for conducting psychological operations.
- b. (U) Incorporate psychological operations into military planning for peacetime operations and for contingencies short of declared war.
- c. (U) Review the psychological operations plans and programs of commanders of Unified and Specified Commands to determine whether they are adequate and feasible.
- d. (U) Provide for the direction of psychological operations conducted by commanders of Unified and Specified Commands.
- e. (U) Maintain liaison on psychological operations plans, programs, operations, and activities with the armed forces of allied and friendly countries.

6. (U) The Commanders of the Unified and Specified Commands, in coordination with the chiefs of U.S. diplomatic missions, shall plan, support, and conduct in peacetime and in contingencies short of declared war psychological operations in support of U.S. regional objectives, policies, interests, and theater military missions.

7. (U) The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service shall furnish support, as required.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE

(U) This Directive is effective immediately.



William H. Taft, IV  
Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosure - 1  
References

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REFERENCES, continued

- (d) ~~(S)~~ "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Central Intelligence Agency and Department of Defense for Mutual Support in Contingency Situations Short of General War" ~~(S)~~, January 6, 1967
- (e) ~~(S)~~ Department of Defense - Central Intelligence Agency, "Delineation of Responsibilities for Evasion and Escape" (U), October 18, 1971
- (f) ~~(S)~~ "Cooperation Agreement Between the Department of Defense and the United States Information Agency" ~~(S)~~, May 9, 1983
- (g) ~~(S)~~ "Command Relationship Agreement Between the Department of Defense and the United States Information Agency" ~~(S)~~, May 9, 1983
- (h) Executive Order 11490, "Assigning Emergency Preparedness Functions to the United States Information Agency," April 6, 1970, as amended
- (i) ~~(S)~~ "Cooperation Agreement between the Department of Defense and the Board for International Broadcasting" (U), December 4, 1977
- (j) National Security Decision Directive Number 130 ~~(S)~~, "U.S. International Information Policy (U)," March 6, 1984

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

Date: 03 Dec 2019 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 U.S.C. § 552

Declassify: \_\_\_\_\_ Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_

Declassify in Part: X

Reason: 3.3 (b)(5)

MDR: 18 -M- 0802

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