



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

Office Of The Under Secretary

2 May 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: SAF/IAD
1010 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1010

SUBJECT: Foreign Disclosure Advisory 39 - Classifying Foreign Disclosure Guidance

This advisory serves two purposes. First, it rescinds current regulatory guidance in Attachment 1, AFI 16-201, Disclosure of Military Information to Foreign Governments and International Organizations, requiring all delegation of disclosure authority letters (DDLs) to be classified at least Confidential. Second, it provides guidance on how to interpret and apply classification guidance to documents containing Air Force foreign disclosure guidance.

Currently, AFI 16-201 requires all DDLs be classified at least Confidential. This guidance may have been based on a liberal interpretation of the phrase, "specific disclosure policy." A review of past derivative classification decisions reveals most disclosure conditions and limitations were classified, even if this information did not reveal specific details for selected weapons systems, equipment, operational capabilities or technologies.

SAF/IAD has reconsidered our policy guidance regarding classification of Air Force DDLs after careful consideration of OSD provided classification guidance found in DoD Instruction 5230.17, Procedures for Disclosure of Classified Military Information to Foreign Governments and International Organizations and Executive Order 12958, Classified National Security Information. Effective upon receipt of this advisory, Air Force DDLs should only be classified if they contain information, which must be classified in accordance with the following criteria:

- a. Classify information in DDLs according to any applicable system, program or activity security classification guides. (E.g. DDL references to F-16 equipment or capabilities should be classified in accordance with the F-16 weapons system security classification guide.)
- b. Information included in DDLs that is derived from another source must be classified in accordance with the source document.

c. Classify as CONFIDENTIAL conditions and limitations that identify specific equipment, technologies, capabilities, documents, programs or activities (or parts thereof) that are not authorized for disclosure. For example, statements in an F-16 DDL indicating that certain radar ECCM techniques and specific turbojet engine repair processes are not authorized for disclosure should be classified at least confidential. Do not classify general restriction statements such as "Proprietary information may not be released", "Information originated by another agency is not authorized", "Vulnerabilities of U.S. systems are not releasable", or "Information bearing a caveat may not be disclosed."

d. If more than one of the requirements above applies, classify the information according to the highest level required.

This advisory supercedes the guidance found in AFI 16-201, Attachment 1 and its guidance will be incorporated into the upcoming revision to AFI-201. Questions regarding this information may be directed to Ms Suzanne Szadai at DSN 425-8809.



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