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SUBJ/SAFEGUARDING CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION//

REF/A DOC/DON/30JUN2006//

REF/B DOC/WHITE HOUSE/29DEC2009//

NARR/ REF A IS SECNAV M-5510.36, DON INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM.
REF B IS EXECUTIVE ORDER 13526, CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION.
POC/BRIDGET OUELLETTE/CIV/CNO N09N2/LOC: WASHINGTON DC/TEL: 202-433-8842/EMAIL: BRIDGET.A.OUELLETTE(AT)NAVY.MIL// POC/DAN DELGROSSO/CIV/DONCIO/LOC: WASHINGTON DC/TEL: 703-607-5652/EMAIL: DAN.DELGROSSO(AT)NAVY.MIL//

RMKS/1. RECENT EVENTS INVOLVING THE POSTING OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE SENSITIVE AND POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

(NSI) TO A PUBLIC WEBSITE HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED TO:

- A. REINFORCE HOW PERSONNEL STORE AND DISTRIBUTE NSI.
- B. REMIND PERSONNEL OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO SAFEGUARD NSI COMMENSURATE WITH THE LEVEL OF CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNED PER REF A, UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS DECLASSIFIED BY THE APPROPRIATE ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY (OCA).

2. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY (DON) PERSONNEL MUST ENSURE CLASSIFIED NSI IS ONLY SHARED WITH THOSE WITH AN AUTHORIZED CLEARANCE, ACCESS, NEED TO KNOW, AND ONLY VIA AUTHORIZED CHANNELS AND SYSTEMS. ACTIVITIES TO THE CONTRARY HAVE THE POTENTIAL OF PLACING OUR FELLOW SAILORS, MARINES AND CIVILIANS AT RISK, AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. PERSONNEL WHO INTENTIONALLY PROPAGATE OR MISHANDLE CLASSIFIED NSI IN VIOLATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS MAY BE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE OR PUNITIVE ACTION.

3. THIS MESSAGE APPLIES TO ALL DON MILITARY, CIVILIAN, AND CONTRACTOR SUPPORT PERSONNEL.

4. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THE APPEARANCE OF POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, REGARDLESS OF MEDIUM OR PLATFORM, DOES NOT INDICATE THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY THE RESPECTIVE ORIGINAL CLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY, DECLASSIFIED, AND CLEARED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE. AS STATED IN REF B, SECTION 1.1(4)(C), (QUOTE) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION SHALL NOT BE DECLASSIFIED AUTOMATICALLY AS A RESULT OF ANY UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF IDENTICAL OR SIMILAR INFORMATION (END QUOTE). THEREFORE, DON PERSONNEL SHALL:

A. NOT CONFIRM OR DENY THE EXISTENCE OF POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NSI IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, AND REPORT THE INCIDENT PER REF A, CHAPTER 12.

B. NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE FURTHER DISSEMINATION OF POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NSI ON DON UNCLASSIFIED IT SYSTEMS BY ACCESSING WEBSITES OR ANY OTHER INTERNET BASED CAPABILITY (IBC) (E.G., TWITTER, FACEBOOK, ETC.) TO VIEW, COPY, OR FORWARD THIS INFORMATION.

C. ENSURE CLASSIFIED NSI IS ONLY SHARED WITH PERSONNEL WITH AN AUTHORIZED CLEARANCE, ACCESS, NEED TO KNOW, AND ONLY VIA AUTHORIZED CHANNELS AND SYSTEMS.

D. PROTECT CLASSIFIED NSI COMMENSURATE WITH THE LEVEL OF CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNED PER REF A, UNTIL THE INFORMATION IS DECLASSIFIED BY THE APPROPRIATE OCA.

E. ADHERE TO THE SERVICES SYSTEMS AUTHORIZATION ACCESS REQUEST FORM (SAAR; I.E. USER AGREEMENT FORM) FOR THE PROTECTION OF INFORMATION RESIDING ON DON NETWORKS.

F. ADHERE TO THEIR NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT (SF-312) WHEN GRANTED A SECURITY CLEARANCE.

5. THE INFORMATION AGE REQUIRES WE VALIDATE AND REDEFINE AS APPROPRIATE OUR PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NSI ON THE INTERNET IN THE EVENT IT MIGRATES TO THE DON UNCLASSIFIED NETWORK DOMAIN.

THEREFORE, I HAVE TASKED DON CIO, DON INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM AUTHORITY (CNO N09N), CHINFO, HQMC AND OPNAV TO RECOMMEND A COURSE OF ACTION WITHIN 60 DAYS, ON REVISED REPORTING, MITIGATION AND DISPOSITION PROCEDURES. IN THE INTERIM, ADHERENCE TO PARA 4 ABOVE IS PARAMOUNT -- REGARDLESS OF THE MAGNITUDE OF DISCLOSURE -- IN ORDER TO AVOID FURTHER PROLIFERATION OF POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NSI ON UNAUTHORIZED SYSTEMS.

6. DON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBERSPACE CAPABILITIES SHOULD BE USED TO ENABLE OUR WARFIGHTERS, PROMOTE INFORMATION SHARING IN DEFENSE OF OUR HOMELAND, AND TO MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCIES IN OPERATIONS, NOT AS A MEANS TO UNDERMINE OUR NATIONAL SECURITY EFFORTS. I EXPECT EACH INDIVIDUAL SAILOR, MARINE, CIVILIAN AND CONTRACTOR SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO DO THEIR PART.

7. QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS MESSAGE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE APPROPRIATE POCS IDENTIFIED ABOVE. REFER MEDIA QUERIES REGARDING POTENTIALLY CLASSIFIED NSI IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN TO THE CHINFO MEDIA OPERATIONS DESK AT (703) 697-5342.

8. RELEASED BY RAY MABUS, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.