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TCS-2795-58  
Copy 17 of 17

25 February 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director

SUBJECT : Security Aspects of TALENT/AQUATONE

1. From time to time confusion has arisen among those cleared and briefed for TALENT and AQUATONE with regard to the end of one clearance and the beginning of the other. The proposals set forth below it is believed will, when carried out, clarify necessary distinctions between the two clearances and strengthen efforts to protect the source by virtue of more exact control of operational information.

Proposal One -- Modification of Security  
Briefing and Agreement (TCS)

2. That the introductory paragraph in the existing security briefing and security agreement for the TALENT Control System be changed so that the following sentence be substituted for the existing first sentence and the third existing sentence be stricken:

"The TALENT Control System has been established by the Director of Central Intelligence in cooperation with the intelligence representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and NSA for the purpose of controlling the intelligence products of extremely sensitive intelligence sources each of which may require special operational clearance."

Comment: The effect of the change proposed above is to inform the reader of the locus of the responsibility for the control of

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HANDLE VIA TALENT  
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

intelligence products acquired from sensitive projects but does not identify who is responsible for the sensitive projects. It should be noted, furthermore, that no reference is made even by implication to AQUATONE nor to the types of material which may be collected and come under the TALENT Control System.

Proposal Two -- Security Briefing  
and Agreement (TCS)

3. That a new paragraph 3 be inserted to read as follows:

"I further understand that by reason of my TALENT clearance I do not have access to all TALENT information or materials but only those required on a MUST KNOW basis and that it is my responsibility before divulging information or giving materials to TALENT-cleared personnel that they in fact have a MUST KNOW requirement to receive same."

Comment: It is recognized that TALENT Security Officers in the various agencies when conducting security briefings will have to emphasize the above point orally which is already incorporated into the TALENT manual but needs to be high-lighted.

Proposal Three -- Security Statement  
for All Substantive Briefings

4. That the following statement be made available through the participating agencies' TALENT Control Officers at all briefings as distinct from substantive analysis under their control where TALENT material is used:

"Photographic or electronic materials or information presented in the following briefing and identified as being in the TALENT Control System have been collected through highly sensitive collection operations which in themselves may not become the subject of discussion by those cleared for TALENT. Discussion of any collection operation or operational details may take place only after those responsible for the discussion at hand have ascertained that all parties have proper operational clearances and security briefings."

Comment: The foregoing will have the effect of eliminating data on the following subjects in TALENT substantive briefings:

- a. Camera or electronic configurations
- b. Exact date of collection
- c. Track (plot)
- d. Altitude
- e. Map showing comprehensive photo coverage

The foregoing will not restrict from discussion procedures and apparatus for exploitation of photographic or electronic materials.

Proposal Four -- Operational Information  
in the TALENT System

5. That documents or materials in the TALENT system which include operational information shall be identified by the code word **AQUATONE** in addition to **HANDLE VIA TALENT CONTROL SYSTEM** and shall be made available only to those who have an **AQUATONE** clearance on a **MUST KNOW** basis. Such clearance does not automatically

afford those personnel cleared for AQUATONE right of access to AQUATONE Headquarters. Documents and materials and recipients thereof are listed below:

- a. Maps showing comprehensive completed coverage --  
Ad Hoc Requirements Committee members,
- b. Maps and documents showing highest priority targets --  
Ad Hoc Requirements Committee members and their staffs as  
required,
- c. NSA reports including Spot, Completed Mission, and  
System Three read-out -- dissemination as approved by Director,  
NSA, in the cases of Spot and Completed Mission Reports; dis-  
semination of System Three read-out reports by agreement  
CIA TALENT Control Officer with other agency TALENT Control  
Officers.

Proposal Five -- Reindoctrination

6. That each agency participating in the TALENT Control System institute in the month of May a reindoctrination of its personnel now in the TALENT Control System for the purpose of reminder and re-education in keeping with the TALENT Control System as amended by the foregoing such reindoctrination to be conducted in groups having similar limits of  
**MUST KNOW.**

Comment: This proposal is based on the belief that unless we periodically call to mind those cleared into the system the essential guidelines of the system we are in danger of allowing a "take it for granted" attitude to develop.

JAMES Q. REBER  
CIA TALENT Control Officer

JQR:cw

- 1-TCO working copy
- 2-OACSI
- 3-ONI
- 4-AFCIN
- 5-NSA
- 6-Asst to DD/I(P)
- 7-OCI
- 8-OSI
- 9-ESO
- 10-ORR
- 11-IO
- 12-Cf/HTA
- 13-TSO
- 14-PSO
- 15-DD/P
- 16-HTA/OCR
- 17-chronoc