

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Security Committee

SECOM-D-447

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director for Administration
FROM: Robert W. Gambino
Chairman
SUBJECT: Zero Based Clearance Review

1. Action Requested: None; for your information only.
2. Background: In paragraph 13 of your 1 February 1979 memorandum concerning your conversation with Secretary Brown, you raised a number of questions about DIA's need for additional SI, TK and BYEMAN access approvals. An answer on their continuing requirements is being prepared by the Collection Tasking Staff.

You expressed the thought that you believed that the approvals needed could be freed up through a zero-based clearance review and you asked that one be initiated. In fact, the Security Committee launched such an action last fall. However, due to the impetus of the NFIB Working Group on Compartmentation, member agencies asked for a reprieve from the requirement to do a zero-based review on product clearances. The logic expressed was that they would end up conducting two such reviews; the one already levied, and when APEX was approved, a second review which would probably call for more stringent need-to-know tests. In view of this, on 22 December 1978, you directed Paul Walsh to see that the zero-based review was confined to a review of operational approvals for the present.

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I have conveyed this revised tasking to all NFIB member Departments and Agencies through my Compartmentation Subcommittee. A deadline of 1 May 1979 has been established for completion of the review. I have contacted the Chairman of that subcommittee and have been told that, as of yet, he has received no responses from member Agencies on what results their reviews may have reaped. He has set a deadline of 10 April 1979 for having results back to him. At that time we should know if the needed BYECOM approvals will be available for DIA redistribution.

Robert W. Gambino

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