

ACTION

February 18, 1972

MEMO FOR: HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM: AL HAIG

Attached is a memo from you to the President forwarding a Helms memo on leaks of classified information. You concur in Helms' suggestion that the President comment at a Cabinet or NSC meeting on the danger of such leaks.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached memo to the President.

NSS review completed.

~~SECRET ATTACHMENTS~~

TL:nm:2/18/72

SECRET

ACTION

FEB 29 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER 15/  
SUBJECT: Leaks of Classified Information

Director Helms has sent you a memorandum (Tab A) informing you of actions taken by the members of the United States Intelligence Board in an effort to better protect classified intelligence information from unauthorized leaks. Director Helms believes that strengthened controls and indoctrination procedures will reduce the risk of unclassified disclosures.

He is very concerned, however, about continued deliberate leaks of highly sensitive information. One of the most serious was a recent

[REDACTED] 25X1  
Director Helms notes that there are only a handful of people in government and industry who have enough knowledge about this program to have leaked the details. He is also concerned that public boasting through such leaks [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] will guarantee Soviet countermeasures which may well jeopardize our capacity to verify any SALT treaties or agreements.

Director Helms suggests that a reference by you to this point at a Cabinet or NSC meeting would be most helpful in curbing such leaks.

RECOMMENDATION: 25X1

I heartily concur in the Director's suggestion that you secure an opportunity to comment at such a meeting on this matter.

SECRET

TL:nm:2/18/72

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

17 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President

In my memorandum of 23 April 1971, I informed you that I had taken certain actions with respect to providing guidance in the field of protection of classified intelligence information, including that bearing on intelligence sources and methods, in response to your memorandum of 21 December 1970. I noted that I had issued detailed guidelines on this subject through the United States Intelligence Board, and that these had been concurred in by all the addressees of your December 21st memorandum.

Each member of the USIB has now reported to me on his implementing actions. These actions include strengthening existing controls on classified material, reviewing indoctrination procedures, reducing the number of clearances, and similar constructive measures. Special attention has been given to establishing procedures whereby the appropriate intelligence chief is consulted whenever it is proposed to issue public statements which may reveal sensitive intelligence information. In these cases, the intelligence chief is expected to assess the risks involved and to devise methods to protect the source of such information.

I believe these strengthened controls and indoctrination procedures will reduce the risk of unauthorized disclosure and I will, of course, continue to monitor closely these actions by the community on your behalf. I am very concerned, however, about our ability to control the deliberate leaks of highly sensitive information that continue to occur.

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