

20 January 1975

ALIAS DOCUMENTATION USED IN THE UNITED STATESA. INTRODUCTION

1. Basic to the conduct of intelligence operations and activities is the need to conceal the true identity of both the intelligence officer (or agent) involved and the organization he represents. The only effective means for achieving a satisfactory degree of concealment is to provide the officer with an alias name which must be supported by appropriate documentation identifying him as the individual he purports to be during the course of his specific operational assignment. The types and numbers of documents required to maintain his false identity depend upon a variety of factors, including the sophistication and sensitivity of those with whom the officer will be in contact, the period of time required to maintain the false identity for contact purposes during a particular operation, and the extent to which the officer's purported identity and the organization with which he ostensibly is affiliated will need to be, or are expected to be, verified by any of his contacts.

2. Within the United States, documents used to support an alias identity are almost exclusively of United States origin; in rare cases documents of ostensible foreign origin may be used to support a foreign alias identity, if necessary for the particular contact to be made.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. Official Documents -- Those of U.S. Federal, State and local governmental agencies which support an ostensible relationship with the alias bearer. Examples are: Federal agency identification cards or credentials, State drivers licenses, community public library cards.

2. Nonofficial Documents -- Those of private organizations or companies which support an ostensible relationship with the alias bearer. Examples are: professional and non-professional clubs or associations, bank cards, auto insurance cards, credit cards, business calling cards.

3. Backstopped Documents -- Those issued by or on behalf of a bona fide sponsor (official or nonofficial) who is knowledgeable of the issuance and is prepared to verify to any inquirer the alleged relationship with the alias bearer.

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SECRET/SENSITIVE

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4. Non-backstopped Documents -- Those purported to be issued by a bona fide sponsor or issued on behalf of an apparently bona fide but actually fictional sponsor. Non-backstopped documents cannot be verified since the bona fide purported sponsor is not aware of their use and the fictional sponsor is non-existent.

5. Flash Identification -- A term applied to non-backstopped documents and meaning that the documents are shown (flashed) to substantiate the bearer's alias identity on occasions when verification of the document normally would not be expected. Officers are advised at the time of issuance of any non-backstopped documents that these are to be used for flash identification purposes only.

6. Pocket Litter -- A generic term applied to a variety of supplementary non-backstopped documents used as independent flash credentials or to support other backstopped documents issued to an alias bearer.

C. TYPES OF DOCUMENTS IN USE

The following categories of alias U.S. documentation are available for issuance in response to valid operational requirements:

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D. POLICIES ON DOCUMENT ACQUISITION AND USAGE

1. Backstopped official documents are issued only with the knowledge and approval of the ostensible sponsor who provides valid documents for this purpose.

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2. Backstopped nonofficial documents are used with the knowledge and approval of the ostensible sponsor but the true name of the alias user is never identified.

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3. Non-backstopped official documents involve primarily notional U.S. Government organization credentials alleging a relationship between the alias bearer and a fictional U.S. Government organization.

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only.

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E. DOCUMENTATION SAFEGUARDS

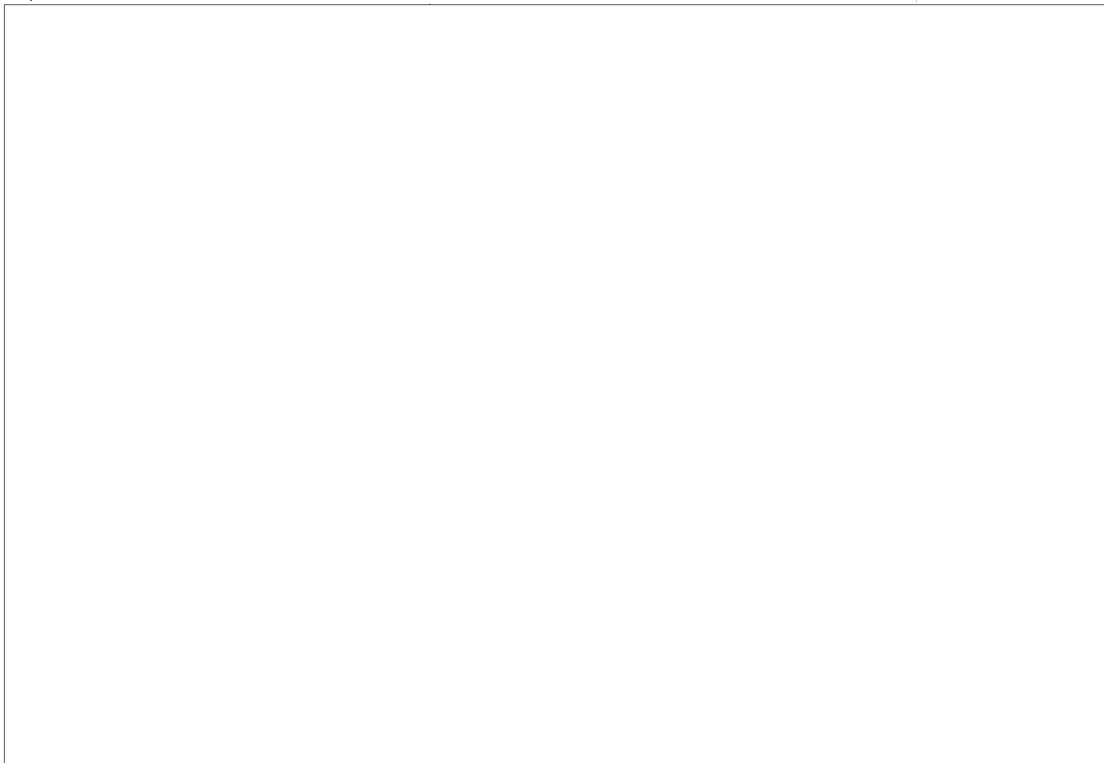
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F. ACTIVITIES REQUIRING DOCUMENT USE



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