

## National Security Council

§ 2103.13

### Subpart D—Declassification and Downgrading

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AUTHORITY: E.O. 12065 and Information Security Oversight Office Directive No. 1.

SOURCE: 44 FR 2384, Jan. 11, 1979, unless otherwise noted.

## Subpart A—Introduction

### § 2103.1 References.

- (a) Executive Order 12065, “National Security Information,” dated June 28, 1978.
- (b) Information Security Oversight Office, Directive No. 1, “National Security Information,” dated October 2, 1978.

### § 2103.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this regulation is to ensure, consistent with the authorities listed in § 2103.1, that national security information processed by the National Security Council Staff is protected from unauthorized disclosure, but only to the extent, and for such period, as is necessary to safeguard the national security.

### § 2103.3 Applicability.

This regulation governs the National Security Council Staff Information Security Program. In consonance with the authorities listed in § 2103.1, it establishes the policy and procedures for the security classification, downgrading, declassification, and safeguarding of information that is owned by, is produced for or by, or is under the control of the National Security Council Staff.

## Subpart B—Original Classification

### § 2103.11 Basic policy.

It is the policy of the National Security Council Staff to make available to the public as much information concerning its activities as is possible, consistent with its responsibility to protect the national security.

### § 2103.12 Level of original classification.

Unnecessary classification, and classification at a level higher than is necessary, shall be avoided. If there is reasonable doubt as to which designation in section 1-1 of Executive Order 12065 is appropriate, or whether information should be classified at all, the less restrictive designation should be used, or the information should not be classified.

### § 2103.13 Duration of original classification.

Original classification may be extended beyond six years only by officials with Top Secret classification authority. This extension authority shall be used only when these officials determine that the basis for original classification will continue throughout the entire period that the classification will be in effect and only for the following reasons:

- (a) The information is “foreign government information” as defined by the authorities in § 2301.1;
- (b) The information reveals intelligence sources and methods;
- (c) The information pertains to communication security;
- (d) The information reveals vulnerability or capability data, the unauthorized disclosure of which can reasonably be expected to render ineffective a system, installation, or project important to the national security;
- (e) The information concerns plans important to the national security, the unauthorized disclosure of which reasonably can be expected to nullify the effectiveness of the plan;