

Central Intelligence Agency



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The Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Cap:

Recently you granted a waiver to Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 5210.48 to permit polygraph testing of DoD personnel assigned [redacted] site of a sensitive intelligence activity manned by DoD and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The purpose of the waiver was to ensure that equitable and consistent security standards are maintained in the activity, for which CIA has the security responsibility.

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[redacted] houses the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC), an installation handling sensitive intelligence materials under the security and administrative cognizance of CIA. [redacted] integrated fully into the NPIC. In addition, [redacted] Defense Intelligence Agency (DB-5) personnel, the [redacted] USAF Intelligence Service Photo Research Branch and the [redacted] U. S. Army Intelligence Threat Analysis Center.

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The DoD personnel integrated into the Center receive full polygraph coverage under a joint CIA-DoD agreement. Those in the other units have not previously undergone any polygraph processing, but there has been physical and procedural compartmentation between the CIA and the nonintegrated DoD activities and personnel in this facility.

In the near future, NPIC will effect certain changes which will integrate to a much greater degree the DoD and CIA personnel serving there. The restrictions on access to various NPIC components will no longer be practicable due to new, integrated communications and data handling equipment and the merger of processing facilities.

While NPIC is a "national asset," it is also an open intelligence facility, not unlike CIA Headquarters or the Intelligence Community Staff Building. Assignment to the latter two facilities requires full polygraph coverage. In the planned work environment, NPIC will resemble these facilities even more,

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in that everyone will work in a fully integrated situation. I believe it is critical to assure that everyone in such an installation meet the same stringent security standards, rather than have some DoD personnel meet CIA staff security standards, while others are afforded lesser coverage.

Because of the projected undifferentiated access, I ask that you once again lend your support to a proposal for a waiver of DoD Directive 5210.48 to permit CIA to polygraph all military and civilian DoD personnel assigned [redacted] Unlike my previous request, however, I ask in this case to perform full, CIA staff-like polygraph coverage. This would include both counterintelligence and "lifestyle" questions, intended to determine susceptibility to exploitation by hostile intelligence as well as actual involvement in unacceptable security practices. A 12-month grace period is proposed for those declining a polygraph examination. Upon implementation of the waiver, however, no one declining the polygraph would be permitted to be newly assigned to NPIC.

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Your approval of the waiver of DoD Directive 5210.48, for the purposes and under the conditions cited above, is respectfully requested.

Yours,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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