SUMMARY OF THE MAIN PROVISIONS OF USSID 18

Contains a Main Body (9 Sections) and Annexes (11)

Section 4—COLLECTION

DO NOT, absent specific written approval of Director, NSA/CSS, or higher authority, intentionally:

COLLECT communications

- which are to, from, or about U.S. persons anywhere (includes citizens, permanent resident aliens, corporations, associations, ships, aircraft, and other U.S. nationals),

- which constitute communications with one communicant in the U.S.

- in a manner that would constitute electronic surveillance in the U.S.

Section 5—PROCESSING

Radio communications with one terminal in the U.S. must be handled in a manner consistent with the provisions of this annex, unless:

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HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY
Collection between two US persons (international communications) or must be destroyed unless:

- The DIRECTOR determines there is SIGNIFICANT foreign intelligence, evidence of a crime, or a threat of death or serious bodily injury; or

Section 6—RETENTION

DO NOT, absent specific written approval of Director, NSA/CSS, or higher authority, intentionally:

RETAIN or USE incidentally intercepted communications between US persons, or communications to or from the US Government, or

STORE incidentally intercepted communications to, from, or about US persons longer than one year (except for certain approved cryptanalytic and other technical data bases)

Access to ANY databases that contain US person identities is limited to SIGINT production personnel.

Section 7—DISSEMINATION

DO NOT, absent specific written approval of Director, NSA/CSS, or higher authority, intentionally:

DISSEMINATE

The focus of all SIGINT reports that contain information to, from, or about a US person should ALWAYS BE on the foreign target. The US information must be minimized and replaced with a generic term unless it meets the criteria in Section 7.b.

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HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY