MEMORANDUM FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

FROM DUSD (CI&S)

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND PAPER, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE FIELD ACTIVITY

The Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA) was established on February 19, 2002, and charged with developing and managing Department of Defense (DoD) Counterintelligence (CI) programs and functions that support the protection of the Department. This includes CI support to protect its personnel, resources, critical information, research and development programs, critical infrastructure, economic security, and U.S. interests, against foreign influence and manipulation, as well as to detect and neutralize espionage against the Department.

CIFA's origins can be traced to Presidential Decision Directive 75, signed by President Clinton on January 5, 2001, and subsequently revalidated by the Bush Administration. PDD-75 called for a predictive and proactive CI system with integrated oversight of CI issues across the national security agencies. Within DoD, CIFA was identified as the Department's single coordination focal point for CI policy implementation, and Defense-wide CI resource and budget planning.

Within DoD, the Military Departments, not CIFA, are charged with the "full spectrum of CI functions." These include investigations and operations. CIFA is responsible for oversight of the CI activities of the Military Departments. The Silberman/Robb WMD Commission recommended CIFA be given authority to provide "full spectrum" CI support to these Components.

In consultation with the NSC staff charged with implementation of the WMD Commission's recommendation, DoD deferred granting CIFA "full spectrum" authorities. Instead, CIFA has been given Mission Tasking Authority (MTA). This new authority enhances CIFA's ability to coordinate the activities of the Military Department CI components to ensure that both Service and DoD-wide CI needs are met.
The MTA in no way expands Departmental authorities nor does the MTA modify existing law or Department directives on the collection or retention of information about US persons. The MTA allows CIFA to task Department CI organizations to execute a specific mission or conduct a function falling within that organization's charter. This new authority is provided in the attached USD(I) Memorandum dated October 24, 2005. This memorandum and its attachment are cleared for public release.

Robert W. Rogoński
Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
(Counterintelligence and Security)

Attachment:
Mission Tasking Authority
MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY
DIRECTOR, MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE

SUBJECT: Mission Tasking Authority

The demands on the Department of Defense (DoD) Counterintelligence (CI) have never been greater or more important. We must continue the transformation of our CI program to ensure a global capability that provides military commanders and other Department consumers and our national leadership with a horizontally integrated CI program that is responsive to the threats of today and the future. Our CI must be agile, integrated, comprehensive, proactive and responsive.

The Department created the Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA) to lead the transformation of our CI program, and the results have been impressive. The maturation of CIFA and the need for a more centralized approach to some of our key CI programs mandate additional authorities for CIFA. The Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission recently noted a need for CIFA to have an expanded role in the Department, and I concur.

Effective immediately, the Director, CIFA, will have the authority to task a Military Department CI organization or a Defense Agency’s organic CI element to execute a specific CI mission or conduct a CI function within that organization’s
charter. Should a question arise about such a tasking that cannot be resolved, it should be referred to the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Counterintelligence and Security) via the Counterintelligence Directorate. The point of contact is Mr. [REDACTED] This authority will be incorporated into DoDD 5240.2, DoD Counterintelligence, which is currently being revised.

I appreciate your support in this most important area.

[Signature]

Stephen A Cambone

cc:
Director, Counterintelligence Field Activity