MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Retention and Use of Information for the TALON System

The TALON reporting program was initiated in May 2003 to provide a mechanism for reporting and analyzing non-validated possible terrorist-related threat information. This initiative provides the Department with a system to permit a comprehensive analysis of potential terrorist-related threats. This program has been designed with respect for the civil liberties of our fellow citizens. Accordingly, with respect to the TALON program, I direct the following:

- All DoD intelligence and counterintelligence (CI) personnel will receive refresher training on the policies for collection, retention, dissemination and use of information related to U.S. Persons. The refresher training is to be completed by January 31, 2006. Components will notify USD(I) when that training is complete.

- The Director, Counterintelligence Field Activity will advise Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)) by January 17, 2006, that all reports in the TALON database have been reviewed to identify any reports that should not be in the database.

The USD(I) has chartered a working group to review and recommend changes to policy and procedures employed in the TALON program to ensure compliance with DoD policy. The USD(I) will provide recommendations to me no later than February 15, 2006.
Any questions concerning this guidance may be directed to Mr. [redacted].

Components will notify Mr. [redacted] when refresher training is completed.

cc:
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight)