

SOCOM
Declassification Plan
(Status: Plan Attached)

PURPOSE

This plan provides the framework for USSOCOM compliance with Executive Order 12958, as amended

SCOPE

This plan pertains to all classified USSOCOM records determined under Federal Law to have permanent historical value wherever they may be stored. Examples of record locations or storage are: National Archives (including regional archive branches), Federal Record Centers, Presidential libraries, unit file rooms or repositories, other approved repositories, including contractor facilities, libraries, and within other agencies.

In addition, this plan applies to all records maintained by USSOCOM (SOCS-HO) for the purpose of preserving a historical record of all operations throughout the history of special operations.

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICIAL

Headquarters United States Special Operations Command, Director of Security, 7701 Tampa point Boulevard, SOCS-PM-SM, MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, FL 33621-5323.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF RECORDS

USSOCOM does not possess any records which are 25 years old or older for which it has sole original classification authority, nor do we anticipate having such records until at least 2013. At that time, it is anticipated nearly all of our declassification issues will be associated with special operations acquisition and logistics programs/projects. With regard to SOF operations, Theater Combatant Commanders generally maintain the OCA on SOF operations carried out within their area of responsibility (AOR).

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

As of 2005, SOCS-HO has identified approximately 10,000 pages of classified documents that must be referred to outside agencies/components for their review prior to 31 Dec 06. No other offices within HQ USSOCOM maintain files affected by the declassification requirements of EO 12958.

The Security Management Office (SOCS-PM-SM) is responsible for ensuring the execution of this plan and updating it as required. Currently, there is no staff/manpower available for carrying out this plan.

The following actions and responsibilities apply in order to comply with EO 12958, as amended.

A. Offices that maintain classified holdings must:

1. Identify all classified holdings at the 23 year point, and refer them to SOCS-PM-SM for formal review, and coordination.
2. Provide a scanned copy of the classified document (Adobe) along with a USSOCOM Form 14 indicating the office that wishes to retain the document, indicate if they hold the only known copy of the document, justification for retention, and a recommendation whether the document should or should not be declassified. The Form 14 should include the names of any other agencies outside HQ USSOCOM that may have equities.

3. Initiate any specific requests for exemption to the 25 year declassification requirement and provide written justification for any proposed exemptions.

B. The Security Management Office (SMO) is responsible for overall program management to include the following:

1. Serve as the central office for all HQ USSOCOM declassification issues.
2. Maintain a database of all outgoing and incoming referrals
3. Staff all internal and external referrals and/or reviews for declassification
4. Assemble "ad hoc" committees of subject matter experts to review all SOF related equities and formulate a consolidated HQ USSOCOM position on declassification matters when required.
5. Convey all HQ USSOCOM OCA decisions regarding declassification to known or suspected holders of the information to be declassified.
6. Coordinate with the USSOCOM Commander and ISOO regarding any specific requests for exemption to the 25 year declassification requirement.