NATO SECURITY BRIEFING



Introduction

- Security standards and procedures for handling NATO information may be different than US information.
- This briefing explains the basic security standards and procedures for safeguarding NATO information.

What is NATO?

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Members include:
 - Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Stovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.
 - SecDef is the US NATO Security Authority, makes sure all security requirements are met.

What is NATO Information?

- Information that has been generated by or for NATO
- Information released into the NATO system by a member nation
- Information marked NATO by originating Nation

Access

- Access to NATO information is determined by the holder.
- Restrictions may be specified by originator when released to NATO.

NATO Markings

- Do not mark NATO unless informed in writing by originator
- Do not release into NATO system without written consent of originator
- Releasable to NATO on US material has been authorized releasable to NATO, only copies released to NATO shall be marked NATO.

Classification Markings

- Four Levels
 - COSMIC TOP SECRET
 - NATO SECRET
 - NATO CONFIDENTIAL
 - NATO RESTRICTED

Certain information is further marked ATOMAL.

There is also official and unclassified information.

COSMIC TOP SECRET

- Cosmic Top Secret (CTS)
 - This is applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which would cause exceptionally grave damage to NATO.
 - COSMIC is applied to TS material to signify it belongs to NATO. The term NATO TOP SECRET is not actually used.

NATO SECRET

- NATO Secret (NS)
 - This is applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which would cause serious damage to NATO.

NATO Confidential

- NATO Confidential (NC)
 - This is applied to information the unauthorized disclosure of which would be damaging to NATO interests.

NATO Restricted

- NATO Restricted (NR)
 - This applies to information the unauthorized disclosure of which would be disadvantageous to the interests of NATO.
 - Though similar safeguards are applied to FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY, OFFICIAL USE ONLY, or SENSITIVE, BUT UNCLASSIFIED information, NR is a security classification.

ATOMAL

ATOMAL

- This information is US Restricted Data or Formerly Restricted Data that is classified per the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or UK ATOMIC information that has been released to NATO.
- ATOMAL is marked COSMIC TOP SECRET ATOMAL (CTSA), NATO SECRET ATOMAL (NSA) or NATO CONFIDENTIAL ATOMAL (NCA).

NATO Unclassified

- NATO Unclassified (NU)
 - This is applied to official information that is the property of NATO, but does not meet the criteria for classification. Access to information by non– NATO entities is permitted when such access would not be detrimental to NATO.

Access Authorization for NATO

- Access is not based on position, rank or level of clearance.
- Based on Need-to-Know (NTK), proper level of clearance and proper access briefing for specific level and type of NATO/ATOMAL information.
- Make sure person(s) have met all requirements BEFORE granting access.

Access Authorization for ATOMAL

- DoD or contractors may have access to ATOMAL on a NTK basis.
- Must be cleared and briefed for Restricted Data.
- Interim Clearances shall not be accepted for access.

The Registry System

- A Central Registry has been established by each NATO member. The Central United State Registry (CUSR) is located at Fort Belvoir.
- The CUSR establishes all US sub-registries that account and secure NATO and ATOMAL material.
- The Marine Corps NATO sub-registry is located at HQMC (PP&O/PS/PSS)

Accounting for NATO Classified

CTS, NS and all ATOMAL

- Receipts and logs WILL be maintained on receipt, disposition, destruction and dispatch of CTS, NS and ALL ATOMAL.
- Individuals will execute a disclosure record upon acquiring access to CTS/NS.

NC and NR

 Maintain Administrative control adequate to preclude unauthorized access. Specific accounting records are only required if specified by the originator.

Marking and Accounting US Documents with NATO info

- Highest Level of US or NATO information will be marked on the outside.
- NATO information is exempt from declassification or downgrading. "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NATO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION" will be marked on the outside and safeguarded accordingly.
- Records of source NATO documents will be maintained.

Safeguarding NATO Material General

- CTS, NS and NC physical security requirements are the same as similarly marked US material.
- NR may be stored in a locked file cabinet as long as access is controlled.
- All person(s) with access to containers must be briefed and access level up to the NATO level held within.

Safeguarding NATO material

- Segregation
 - Keep NATO, ATOMAL and US material separate.
 Different drawers or containers are acceptable.
 - ATOMAL control records shall be separate as well.
- Combinations will be changed annually, when a person leaves or if believed to be compromised.

Transmission of NATO Material

- CTS or CTSA shall be through the registry system using a cleared courier service.
- NS, NSA, NC and NCA will use by courier, cleared employees with courier ID or by US registered mail.
- Receipts are required for CTS, NS and all ATOMAL.

Automated Information Systems (AIS)

- AIS that have been accredited to process US information may process NATO information of the same or lower level.
- Organizations must issue instructions for processing, handling and accounting for NATO information in regards to AIS.

Destruction

CTS, CTSA, NS, NSA and NCA material will be destroyed only by registry personnel using a destruction certificate and method approved for destruction of US material of the same level.

Reproduction

- Only the CUSR or a sub registry or control point may reproduce CTS, NS and all ATOMAL material.
- NC and NR material may be reproduced by holders of it as necessary.
- Reproduced copies will be accounted for and safeguarded as the originals.

Security Violations

- The violation/compromise will be handled in the same manner as US classified information.
- The servicing sub registry or control point must be informed in addition.