

The DoD Times (Redacted)

COSMIC

Copy No.

NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

70

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
17th April, 1953
EXCLUDING CORR. 29.4.53

COSMIC TOP SECRET
SUMMARY RECORD
AG/19-R/52

COSMIC TOP SECRET

COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL REVIEW

The highest level of security in the Alliance, covering only the most important information generated by NATO. Unauthorized access would result in exceptionally grave damage to NATO. Also abbreviated CTS, this information would cover only the most detailed defensive plans or other highly sensitive subjects. Summary Record of Meetings held at the

Using Tools of the Bureaucracy to Suppress the Truth

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Did You Know: Did You Know: Leadership in the Department of Defense will re-classify and/or overclassify documents relevant to administrative investigations (Inspector General, Equal Employment Opportunity, Equal Opportunity) to prevent complainants and/or subjects of investigations and their civilian lawyers, if retained, from accessing information that can help their respective arguments during and after these investigations.

Here are some potential implications of these facts:

1. DoD leadership can protect itself from accountability by using this simple and seemingly unassailable bureaucratic process.
2. Complainants, subjects, and their civilian lawyers, if retained, will lose access / have access to even [fewer elements](#) of an investigation, thus significantly disadvantaging their ability to achieve justice.
3. Subjects that attempt to [correct their personnel records](#), such as attempting to remove an unjust [written reprimand](#) from their permanent record, will be denied access to key pieces of evidence that could lead to a favorable outcome.
4. Due to the difficulties associated with gaining access to classified documents, complainants/subjects will likely need to spend an exorbitant amount of money on a lawyer to help them through the opaque declassification process and will become less mission effective due to the mental burden of the process.
5. Subjects who endured unjust substantiations of false allegations will face years-long delays in promotion, pay increases, and lost job opportunities – military and civilian – while they wait for access to overclassified documents needed to correct their personnel records.
6. Personnel who work in organizations that value secrecy for purposes of operational security – the intelligence community, aviators, special operations community, etc. – will be under extreme (*unnecessary!*) pressure to self-overclassify documents to avoid being falsely accused of [spillage](#).
7. Subjects that must wait (often for years) for access to improperly classified material to correct their record will suffer the physical, emotional, and mental traumas associated with being falsely punished.

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Recommendation: When making a complaint and/or responding to complaint allegations, *always* write at the Unclassified level. It is possible. This is the only way to ensure continued access to *your* intellectual property.

A question to ask yourself is how DoD leadership can honestly attempt to justify to American Citizens an organization that uses all the tools at its disposal to suppress the rights of these self-same American Citizens.

If you feel that you have been a victim of this "Did You Know" highlight, feel free to reach out privately or share your story in the comments.