MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY/CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
AND
THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
ON
THE ACCREDITATION OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Purpose:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the National Security Agency/Central Security Service/Information System Security Policy (NSA/CSS/ISSP) and the National Reconnaissance Office, Security Office (NRO) documents and formalizes the understanding between the two agencies in accrediting their Information Systems (ISs) and networks which process Sensitive Compartmented Intelligence information, including VRK and BYE information.

Background:

a. Both agencies use Reference b. as the standard for IS security accreditation and have cooperative working arrangements.

b. For the purpose of implementation, NSA adheres to NSA Manual 130-1 for all government users and NRO uses AISSIM-200. Both NSA and NRO use AISSIM-200 as the implementation requirements manual for their contractors.

Responsibilities:

NRO/Office of Security/Facilities and Information Security Division (NRO/OS/F&ISD) is responsible for ensuring all ISs and networks owned and operated by NRO have been properly accredited. NSA/CSS/ISSP is responsible for ensuring that all ISs and networks owned and operated by NSA have been properly accredited.

SUBJECT: MOU BETWEEN NSA AND NRO ON JOINT ACCREDITATION ON
          INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Agreement:

     NRO/OS/P&ISD and NSA/CSS/ISSP will be responsible for
conducting joint accreditations of all ISs and networks deployed
and installed by NRO within NSA facilities and ISs and networks
deployed and installed by NSA/CSS within NRO facilities. The
accreditor for the host facility will be responsible for
-coordinating all visits, ensuring that all appropriate
documentation is provided, and issuing a final accreditation
report. Upon completion of the accreditation process,
NRO/OS/P&ISD and NSA/CSS/ISSP will issue a joint accreditation
agreement to their respective organizations.

     If agreement on accreditation approval cannot be reached
between each organizations' Designated Accrediting Authority
(the Chief Information Officer), the issues will be forwarded to
Director, National Security Agency and the Director, National
Reconnaissance Office for resolution. If an accreditation
approval still cannot be reached, the matter will be presented to
the Director of Central Intelligence for final accreditation
determination.

     NRO and NSA/CSS will cooperate with and support each other's
accreditation efforts in these instances. Either NRO/OS/P&ISD or
NSA/CSS/ISSP may request the other accreditor act on their
behalf.

2

SUBJECT: MOU BETWEEN NSA AND NRO ON JOINT ACCREDITATION ON
           INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Termination/Review:

This MOU shall become effective as of the date of the latest signature and shall be reviewed by both parties, biennially. Any revisions or modifications to the MOU will be by consent of both parties, in writing, and published as amendments to the base MOU. This MOU may be terminated upon the written notice by either party to the other and shall be effective on a date mutually agreed to by the parties.

Chief Information Officer
National Reconnaissance Office

DATE: 8 October 1997

Ronald Kemper
Chief Information Officer
National Security Agency

DATE: 30 September 1997

SUBJECT: MOU BETWEEN NSA AND NRO ON JOINT ACCREDITATION ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS

References:

a. DoD Directive 5200.28, Security Requirements for Automated Information Systems (AISs), dated March 21, 1988.

b. Director of Central Intelligence Directive 1/16, Security Policy for Uniform Protection of Intelligence Processed in Automated Systems and Networks, effective 19 July 1988.

c. Automated Information Systems Security Implementation Manual (AISSIM-200), dated 18 February 1994.

d. NSA/CSS Manual 130-1, NSA/CSS Operational Computer Security Manual, dated 17 October 1990.