DATE: 31 March 2009

REPLY TO: GENERAL COUNSEL

ATTN OF:

SUBJECT: (U/FOUO) Concerning the Use of Material Derived from Signals Intelligence Activities INFORMATION

TO: INSPECTOR GENERAL

1. (U/FOUO) You asked us whether sharing of voice cuts among signals intelligence (SIGINT) analysts for purposes other than official ones constitutes a violation of any laws, policies or procedures.

2. (C) The sharing of SIGINT information with other SIGINT personnel in order to rather than for the production of foreign intelligence or to point out an unusual figure of speech or for some similar technical/linguistic purpose, would be inconsistent with the terms of Executive Order 12333. The Executive Order, the primary document that authorizes SIGINT personnel to engage in SIGINT activities, is specific about the purposes for which SIGINT activities may be carried out. The sharing of voice cuts and/or similar material compiled in the course of SIGINT collection with other SIGINT personnel, like all SIGINT activities, must be done with the aim of producing foreign intelligence, or for some other valid official purpose under Executive Order 12333.

3. (C)

Approved for Release by NSA on 10-21-2014, FOIA Case # 70809 (Litigation)
4. (U//FOUO) It also seems that any Inspector General (IG) review of this issue should assess whether the SIGINT personnel involved were spending their work time engaged in non-productive activity. We defer to your expertise in assessing what degree of non-official activity constitutes waste, fraud and abuse, but to the extent personnel spent work time... we think the inquiry is appropriate.

5. (U//FOUO) If you have any questions in connection with this correspondence, please contact me at 963-5548(s).

Deputy General Counsel
(Operations)