

(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

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From: Director's Message to the Work Force [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2001 5:20 PM
To: NSA/CSS Work Force
Subject: (U) DIRgram-172: :Formation of the EP3 Cryptologic Assessment Team"

Classification: ~~SECRET~~
Security Control Marking: ~~COMINT~~
~~REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR and NZL~~

~~(S//SI//REL)~~ I want to update you on NSA/CSS' actions and proposed next steps as they pertain to the Navy EP-3 that remains in China. As

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~~(S//SI//REL)~~ Given the scope of this effort, we are establishing a joint NSA/CSS and Naval Security Group (NSG) EP-3 Cryptologic Assessment Team.

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(b) (1)
(b) (3) -18 USC 798
(b) (3) -50 USC 3024(i)
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~~(U//FOUO)~~ In addition to the duties listed above, the team will serve other critical functions. I have tasked them to serve as our official spokespersons and dissemination hub for transmitting information to you and the Community. Some of you will be asked to provide information and support to the team as it performs its duties. I ask that you fully cooperate with the team, as they represent not only our organization's senior leadership, but our work force as well.

~~(S//SI//REL)~~ The Cryptologic System experienced a similar crisis during the seizure of the USS Pueblo in 1968. Immediately following that crisis we formed a joint NSA/CSS - Navy team that assessed the

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Your support and dedication, as always, are greatly appreciated.

MICHAEL V. HAYDEN
Director, NSA/CSS

DRV FM: NSA/CSSM 123-2
Dated 24 Feb '98
DECL ON: X1

Approved for Release by NSA on 01-27-2025, FOIA Case # [63749]