DOCID: 3984095

24 Feb
To SEC
Approved by
Dir C/S DCS

Photographing and Sketching NSA Facilities, Ft. Meade

20 FEB 1959

DIR SEC

THRU: C/S T. McKeon/3195/lug

1. It has recently come to my attention that Agency employees and relatives of employees have been detained by the Provost Marshal, Fort George G. Meade, for taking pictures of the NSA Operations Building. It is not believed that the mere photographing or sketching of the building from outside the fence is a security problem in itself. It is realized that it could present a nuisance or traffic problem if a large number of people were to take pictures at any one time.

2. It is recommended that you approve the following items as Agency policy regarding the photographing or sketching of NSA facilities:

a. Agency employees may photograph or sketch NSA facilities from outside the fence; however, this policy should not be construed to mean that photographing or sketching is being encouraged.

b. All other persons attempting to photograph or sketch the Operations Building from outside the fence should be discouraged but not detained. This should prevent unnecessary focusing of attention on the building.

c. Photographs or sketches may not be made within the building or within the fenced area.

d. Photographs or sketches taken for commercial purposes should be discouraged on the basis that the focusing of unnecessary public attention on NSA is not desired.

3. Agency elements may seek exception to paragraph 2c above if the need arises for such photographs in the preparation of official documents or brochures, such as TNG and PERS recruiting documents.

4. Each request of the type mentioned in paragraph 2d should be considered on its own merits with the Chief of Staff having the decision-making responsibility in line with his current Public Information Officer (PIO) function. The AG should staff the request prior to referral to the Chief of Staff.

5. Necessary officials within NSA will be notified immediately after a policy decision. No general dissemination will be made to Agency employees and no special attention will be called to the policy and thereby avoid a rash of photographing with attendant nuisance to the Marines, Provost Marshal, Traffic Control, etc.

Approved for Release by NSA on 07-03-2012 pursuant to E.O. 13526

SUBJECT: Photographing and Sketching NSA Facilities, Ft. Meade

TO: DIR
THRU: C/S FROM: SEC DATE: 20 FEB 1959 COMMENT No. 1 (Cont'd)

6. Appropriate authorities within Second Army Headquarters, Fort George G. Meade, will be advised by correspondence of the above policy, if approved.

S. WESLEY REYNOLDS
Director of Security

cc:
AG