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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

memorandum

DATE: 9 November 1983

REPLY TO ATTN OF: Director

SUBJECT: Computer Security Within NSA

TO: DISTRIBUTION III

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noted to DDPP
9 Nov 83

1. The recent media focus on computer security-related topics has fostered growing concerns in various sectors over the security of sensitive information entrusted to computers. These concerns are well founded.

2. Just over two years ago, in accordance with a charge from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, we formally established the DoD Computer Security Center as an integral part of the National Security Agency. With the opening of that Center, we also accepted a new and challenging mission, and one which complements our national responsibilities for SIGINT and COMSEC. This recent wave of publicity affords me an opportune time to reaffirm my total commitment to this most recently acquired mission - COMPUTER SECURITY.

3. I expect every Agency employee, and particularly the mid and senior level managers, to afford the same high degree of dedication and cooperation to our Computer Security mission as they have historically given our SIGINT and COMSEC missions. I also expect NSA to be at the forefront, not only in designing, evaluating and enhancing computer security measures, but also in applying those measures to the data processing systems which we acquire and use.

4. In the near future we will promulgate new and revised NSA/CSS directives which will clearly detail the responsibilities of each Key Component as they relate to computer security, and which will restate my policy of effectively securing our own ADP assets. I know with your support we will achieve our goals.

LINCOLN D. FAURER
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

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cc: DDPP
Q4 (2)
Q41 (2)

M/R: This memorandum completes action assigned in the Director's Decision Memorandum on COMPUSEC Responsibilities (C/S-110-83), item 2.g.(5).

[redacted] Q41, 963-3083, 4 Nov 83, lie

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