



# OIG Office of Inspector General

U.S. Department of State • Broadcasting Board of Governors

UNCLASSIFIED

February 3, 2016

## MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY KENNEDY

FROM: OIG - Steve A. Linick *SL*

SUBJECT: CLASSIFIED MATERIAL DISCOVERED IN UNCLASSIFIED ARCHIVAL MATERIAL  
(ESP-16-02)

The Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Office of Evaluation and Special Projects is currently examining issues associated with records preservation and the use of personal hardware and software by five Secretaries of State (Albright, Powell, Rice, Clinton, and Kerry) and their immediate staff.

During the course of the review, OIG searched unclassified archives and discovered records suggesting instances in which potentially sensitive material may have been transmitted via personal email accounts or other unclassified means to Secretary Powell, or to the personal email accounts of Secretary Rice's immediate staff. None of the material was marked as classified, but the substance of the material and "NODIS" (No Distribution) references in the body or subject lines of some of the documents suggested that the documents could be potentially sensitive. On October 19, 2015, OIG transmitted to the Department and separately to the Inspector General for the Intelligence Committee (ICIG) for classification review 19 separate Office of the Secretary archival documents. The date range on the documents is from February 2003 through June 2008.

On December 15, 2015, the ICIG advised OIG that, according to information management officials in the Intelligence Community (IC) elements, none of the documents contain or contained IC information.

On December 29, 2015, the Department advised OIG that 12 of the 19 documents contain national security information classified at the Secret or Confidential levels based on a review by 9 Department bureaus and offices. Two of these documents were emails sent to Secretary Powell's personal email account and the remaining were documents transmitted to personal email accounts of Secretary Rice's immediate staff.

On January 15, 2016, the Department provided a second response that discusses OIG's query whether the material contained in each classified document was or should have been regarded as classified at the time of transmission or receipt.

Based on the Department's responses and findings to date, additional potential classified material and/or highly sensitive information not intended for distribution may reside in the Department's unclassified paper and electronic archives associated with Secretaries Powell and Rice and their respective staff.

Recommendation

OIG recommends that the Department remove classified material from all unclassified paper and electronic archives associated with Secretaries Powell and Rice and their staff.

OIG would appreciate a written response to this memorandum and information on actions taken or planned relevant to the recommendation. The response should indicate agreement or disagreement with the recommendation.

Comments received within 10 business days of the date of this memorandum will be reprinted as an appendix to the memorandum. This memorandum may be posted to the OIG internet and intranet websites.

cc: D(MR) – Heather A. Higginbottom  
DS – Gregory B. Starr  
A – Joyce A. Barr  
I. Charles McCullough, III, Inspector General, Intelligence Community

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