NR key name: 36BEFD93C9FDEBE4852561A2004120B3

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**Subject:** New Declassification Order

Yesterday, President Clinton signed a new Executive Order No. 12958 on "Classified National Security Information." At the time it becomes effective (180 days from yesterday), it will revoke Executive Order 12356 -- which previously contained the standards for classification and declassification. Among other portions of the order, Section 3.4 provides for automatic declassification of documents after 25 years. Lest any of you think that your work will become outmoded by the new order, exceptions to the automatic 25-year rule include "specific information" that would: "(1) reveal the identity of a confidential human source, or reveal information about the application of an intelligence source or method, or reveal the identity of a human intelligence source when the unauthorized disclosure of that source would clearly and demonstrably damage the national security interests of the United States . . . (6) reveal information that would seriously and demonstrably impair relations between the United States and a foreign government, or seriously and demonstrably undermine ongoing diplomatic activities of the United States Government officials to protect the

**Body:** President, Vice President, and other officials . . . . "I hope this language is now familiar to you.

recstat: Record

**DeliveryPriority:** N **DeliveryReport:** B

ReturnReceipt: Categories: