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(U//FOUO) SID Using New Classification Markings in Its Reports

FROM: the SIGINT Communications Team

Unknown

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(U//FOUO) Last week, SID reporters were given the go-ahead to start using the "new" Intelligence Community classification markings in the free-flow body of their serialized reports.

(U//FOUO) As a result, the codewords UMBRA, SPOKE, MORAY, and ZARF are being phased out of the text section of SIGINT reports. This means, for example, that paragraphs formerly portion marked TSC (TOP SECRET UMBRA) will become TS//SI (TOP SECRET//COMINT), and SC (SECRET SPOKE) will become S//SI (SECRET//COMINT).

(U//FOUO) By way of background, the "new" IC markings were instituted by the National SIGINT Committee in October 1999. However, use of the new markings required extensive changes to the HIGHTIDE software used to issue reports. On 25 April of this year, most of the software modifications were completed to allow the new markings to appear in the "manually-generated" parts of a report, i.e. the text. The machine-generated overall classification line will continue to show the "old" markings until the system is fully modernized, however. SID's Reporting Policy and Guidance office has issued a memo authorizing and explaining the use of the new markings-click here for further details.

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