

V. POLICY

- A. Access to classified information shall be granted or continued only to those individuals who have been determined eligible based upon a finding that to do so is clearly consistent with the national interest.
- B. In the course of an investigation, interrogation, examination, or hearing, the applicant may be requested to answer relevant questions, or to authorize others to release relevant information about himself. The applicant is expected to give full, frank, and truthful answers to such questions, and to authorize others to furnish relevant information. The applicant may elect on constitutional or other grounds not to comply. However, such a wilful failure or refusal to furnish or to authorize the furnishing of relevant and material information may prevent the Department of Defense from reaching the affirmative finding required by reference (a) in which event any security clearance then in effect shall be suspended by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration), or his designee, and the further processing of his case discontinued.
- C. Inquiries concerning an applicant will be limited to matters relevant to a determination whether granting access to classified information is clearly consistent with the national interest, and shall not be directed to the applicant's opinions about: (1) religious beliefs and affiliations; (2) racial matters; (3) political candidates or parties other than those included in section VI. D. below; (4) the constitutionality or wisdom of legislative policies.
- D. Determinations under this Directive shall be in terms of the national interest and shall in no sense be determinations as to the loyalty of the applicant; nor shall they be considered a bar to employment in a position not requiring access to classified information.

V. A.