Military Operations, Plans & Capabilities

<u>Purpose</u>. This Notice aims to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of information which would improve an adversary's knowledge and understanding of the UK's military plans, current operations and capabilities. Such disclosure could improve an adversary's knowledge in ways which could put UK forces at a disadvantage. At a minimum, this would increase the risk to UK personnel and undermine the effectiveness of UK operations. In more acute cases, this could lead to the loss of UK lives and endanger national security.

<u>Editors and Journalists</u>. Editors and journalists are requested to seek advice from the DSMA Secretary before publicly disclosing material which may affect the purpose of this Notice. Such material is likely to include (but is not limited to) information which covers the following topics:

- Current and future operations, methods, tactics and contingency planning.
- Readiness states and capabilities of military units engaged in or about to be committed to operations.
- Operational movements.
- Details of current tactics, trials, techniques and training.
- Details of developments in tactics, trials, techniques and training.
- Counter-terrorist measures adopted by military units.
- Counter-terrorist measures taken by military units and security personnel employed at installations.

Nuclear and Non-Nuclear Weapon Systems & Equipment

<u>Purpose</u>. This Notice aims to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of information which would improve an adversary's knowledge and understanding of the UK's military and security weapon systems and equipment (including nuclear, conventional and counter-terrorist). Such disclosure could enable an adversary to develop defensive counter-measures and/or offensive capabilities or take pre-emptive actions to negate their effects. Such action would endanger national security and/or increase the risk to UK lives.

<u>Editors and Journalists</u>. Editors and journalists are requested to seek advice from the DSMA Secretary before publicly disclosing material which may affect the purpose of this Notice. Such material is likely to include (but is not limited to) information which covers the following topics:

- Detailed design of UK nuclear weapon systems, their support systems and the technologies used to produce them.
- Detailed security arrangements for the storage and transportation of the UK's nuclear weapon systems and the associated fissile materials.
- Capabilities, vulnerabilities and technologies used in both conventional and counter-terrorist weapon systems.

Military Counter-Terrorist Forces, Special Forces and Intelligence Agency Operations, Activities and Communication Methods and Techniques

<u>Purpose</u>. This Notice aims to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of classified information about:

- Special Forces and other MOD units engaged in security, intelligence and counter-terrorist operations, including their methods, techniques and activities;
- Security and Intelligence Agency operations, methods, techniques and activities.

And

- Communications methods, techniques and activities;
- Encryption capabilities, techniques and activities;
- Data protection measures

used or undertaken by the UK Government and its NATO and other allies.

Such disclosure could:

 Reveal details of operations or operating methods and techniques¹ before, during and after their execution which would bestow an advantage on an adversary which could endanger national security and increase the risk to UK lives:

 Reveal vulnerabilities, enabling adversaries to penetrate systems or infrastructure and endanger national security and increase the risk to UK lives or capabilities;

¹ Even when used by the National Crime Agency (NCA). This is intended purely to protect national security and not to inhibit normal reporting on law enforcement.

- Give adversaries access to highly classified information which would endanger national security and put lives in the UK or in allied countries at risk; and
- Enable adversaries to improve their knowledge and understanding of the UK's intelligence-gathering, defence and security capabilities and intentions, and secure communication facilities.

Editors and Journalists. Editors and journalists are requested to seek advice from the DSMA Secretary before publicly disclosing material which may affect the purpose of this Notice. Such material is likely to include (but is not limited to) information which covers the following topics:

- The methods and techniques of organisations involved with the execution of national security operations including details of Special Forces and other MOD units engaged in security, intelligence and counter-terrorist operations or Security and Intelligence Agency operations that are in the planning or execution stages or after they have been completed.
- The methods and techniques of the Security and Intelligence Agencies, including details of operations that are in the planning or execution stages or after they have been completed.
- Classified details of encryption systems, capabilities or techniques currently or previously used by the UK government or its NATO or other allies.
- Classified details of the UK's current and past intelligencegathering capabilities and intentions including targets, techniques, locations, partners and technologies.
- Classified details of the UK's current and past defence and security capabilities and intentions including techniques, partners and technologies.

Physical Property and Assets

<u>Purpose</u>. This Notice aims to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of information in connection with sensitive UK and NATO installations of critical importance to the security of the UK and its international partners. Disclosure could assist an enemy to develop plans and capabilities to monitor, attack, disrupt or destroy installations thereby endangering UK national security and capabilities; and the lives of the UK civilian population.

<u>Editors and Journalists</u>. Editors and journalists are requested to seek advice from the DSMA Secretary before publicly disclosing material which may affect the purpose of this Notice. Such material is likely to include (but is not limited to) information which covers the following topics:

- High Security MOD sites.
- High security sites associated with the nuclear weapons programme.
- High security sites associated with the security and intelligence agencies
- Headquarters and communication facilities for use by the UK Government or NATO in times of crisis.
- Sites that form part of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI)².

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² Further information on CNI is available at http://www.cpni.gov.uk/about/cni/

Personnel and their Families who work in Sensitive Positions

<u>Purpose</u>. This Notice aims to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of Sensitive Personal Information (SPI) that reveals the identity, location or contact details of personnel (and their family members) who have security, intelligence and/or counter-terrorist duties and/or backgrounds, including members of the UK Security and Intelligence Agencies, MOD and Special Forces.

Those working in such sensitive positions should be able to do so without there being unnecessary personal risk to them or their family. SPI of such individuals and their family members includes any information that could lead to their identification but in particular includes their images, names and work and home addresses. Disclosure of such details can create risks up to and including endangering their lives.

<u>Editors</u>. Editors are requested to seek advice from the DSMA Secretary before disclosing material which may affect the purpose of this Notice. Such material is likely to include (but is not limited to) information which covers the following topics:

- The SPI (including images) of the families and those involved, both directly and indirectly, with defence, security, intelligence and counter-terrorism and;
- Contact details used by the intelligence agencies and Special Forces.