

DETERMINATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Under the authority delegated to me by the Secretary of Defense, I have determined that the following information is exempt from disclosure under Exemption 3 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3)) because it meets the requirements for exemption under 10 U.S.C. § 130e:

Any Department of Defense aircraft flight data information (including surveillance sensor data, geospatial referenced position information, altitude, heading, bearing and identification data) collected and/or stored by U.S. Government surveillance and information technology systems.

Date: June 30, 2017

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Michael L. Rhodes
Director of Administration

STATEMENT OF THE BASIS FOR THE DETERMINATION BY
THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

In accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 130e, I reviewed information regarding Department of Defense (DOD) aircraft flight data and track data collected and/or stored by the US Government surveillance sensors and information technology systems. I have determined that this information qualifies as DOD critical infrastructure security information as defined by 10 U.S.C. § 130e(f) because it pertains to the physical and operational security regarding the origin, patterns, and trends of the movement of military forces.

Gaining this information about our capabilities and intentions, individually or in the aggregate, would enable an adversary to identify vulnerabilities in the execution of our military forces' training and operational missions. This would further provide an adversary the information to disrupt or inflict significant destruction or damage to DOD aircraft and personnel by introducing a risk to our military air operations.

I considered the public interest in the disclosure of this aggregated flight data and radar tracks and weighed this against the risk of harm that might result if DOD aircraft flight data and radar track data were to be disclosed. Because the public interest in the disclosure is minimal, and the risk of harm that might result from this information is extremely significant, I have determined that the protection of this information is critical to the security of our DOD infrastructure and should be exempt from disclosure.