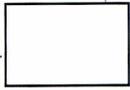


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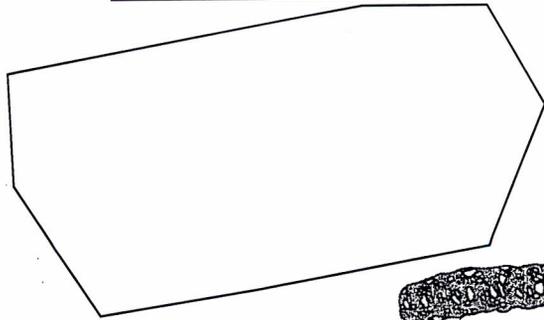
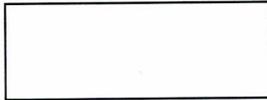


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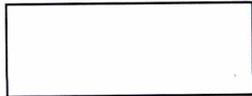
# Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics Operations (U)



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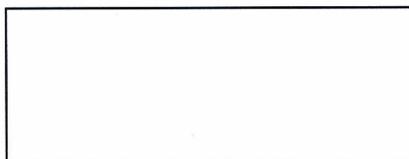
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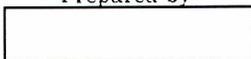
## Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics Operations (U)



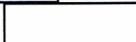
Date: March 1986  
Information Cutoff Date: 1 November 1985

This is a Department of Defense Intelligence Document  
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Directorate for Scientific and Technical Intelligence,  
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Prepared by



Nuclear Weapons Branch



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### PREFACE

~~(S)~~ [redacted] This report presents a summary of the current analysis within DIA on Soviet nuclear weapons logistics operations. The major areas dealt with are central organization, logistics operations for each of the five military forces, weapons transport and facilities.

[redacted]

(U) Questions and comments concerning this publication can be addressed to the Defense Intelligence Agency [redacted], Washington, D.C. 20301-6111. Requests for additional copies should be sent to DIA [redacted]

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### DIA Publications on Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics

1. [redacted]
2. [redacted]
3. [redacted] *The Soviet Aviation Nuclear Weapons Support Unit* [redacted]  
23 July 1984 [redacted]
4. [redacted] *Soviet Naval Nuclear Weapons Logistics* [redacted] 17 June 1985
5. [redacted] *The Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics Organization*  
[redacted] 30 May 1983 [redacted]
6. [redacted] *Soviet Nuclear Warhead Logistics in Eastern Europe*  
[redacted] 14 June 1982 [redacted]
7. [redacted] *Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics — The German  
Depot Problem* [redacted] 10 April 1980 [redacted]
8. [redacted] *Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics — Rail Movement  
into Eastern Europe* [redacted] 18 May 1979 [redacted]
9. [redacted] *Project Gazebo: Soviet Nuclear Weapons and Associated Ground  
Support Equipment Handbook* [redacted] August 1982

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
DIA Publications on Soviet Nuclear Weapons Logistics . . . . .	iii
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	vi
SECTION I — THE CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONS . . . . .	1
General . . . . .	1
Command and Control . . . . .	1
SECTION II — NUCLEAR WEAPONS LOGISTIC MOVEMENTS . . . . .	3
Rail Movement . . . . .	3
Road Movement . . . . .	6
Air Movement . . . . .	10
SECTION III — SOVIET NUCLEAR WEAPONS STORAGE BUNKERS . . . . .	11
General . . . . .	11
	11
	13
	14
	16
	19
	25
	25
	25
	27
	34
	41
	43
	48

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

## APPENDIXES

A. National Stockpile Sites . . . . .	51
B. . . . .	53
C. . . . .	57
D. . . . .	59
E. . . . .	61
F. . . . .	65
G. . . . .	67
H. . . . .	69
I. . . . .	71
J. . . . .	75
K. . . . .	77
L. . . . .	79

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1. Soviet Nuclear Weapons Rail Cars . . . . .	4
	5
	7
	8
	9
	12
	13

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



Figure 14. Soviet Bomb Trailers (U) . . . . .

Figure 16. Organization of National Stockpile Site. UR (U) . . . . .

[Redacted content]

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

LIST OF TABLES

[Redacted content]

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

~~S~~ [redacted] The 12th Chief Directorate of the Ministry of Defense (12th GUMO) is the Soviet central level organization responsible for the storage and maintenance of nuclear weapons.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~S~~ [redacted] There is a Sixth Directorate within the main staff of the Soviet Navy which is responsible for nuclear weapons logistics for all naval forces.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~S~~ [redacted] The Soviets normally move nuclear weapons in the USSR and into Eastern Europe by rail.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~S~~ [redacted] Although rail is the preferred method of nuclear weapons transport in the USSR, it isn't the only means because flexibility and mobility are important factors in the Soviet nuclear logistics system.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~S~~ [redacted] The Soviets have built an extensive system of nuclear weapons storage and handling sites to support their five military services.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

vii

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SECTION I  
THE CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONS

GENERAL

§ [redacted] The Soviet nuclear weapons logistic system has been under development since the mid 1950s. Extensive security measures, against both the Soviet populace and foreign intelligence efforts, have been successful in maintaining a veil of secrecy around most aspects of this activity. The Soviets grant access to nuclear weapons design and logistics information to only a small number of Soviet officers and senior NCOs entrusted with the maintenance, storage, preparation, and transport of these weapons.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

COMMAND AND CONTROL

§ [redacted] The Presidium of the Central Committee, (CPSU) probably is the basic authority for decisions on deployment and use of nuclear weapons by Soviet military forces.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

Authority for actual release of nuclear weapons, of course, would reside in the aforementioned national command authorities through the executive agent of the General Staff.

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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SECTION II

NUCLEAR WEAPONS LOGISTICS MOVEMENTS

RAIL MOVEMENT

(S) [redacted] Rail probably is the principal means for transport of nuclear weapons within the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

[redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

(S) [redacted]  
[redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

(S) [redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

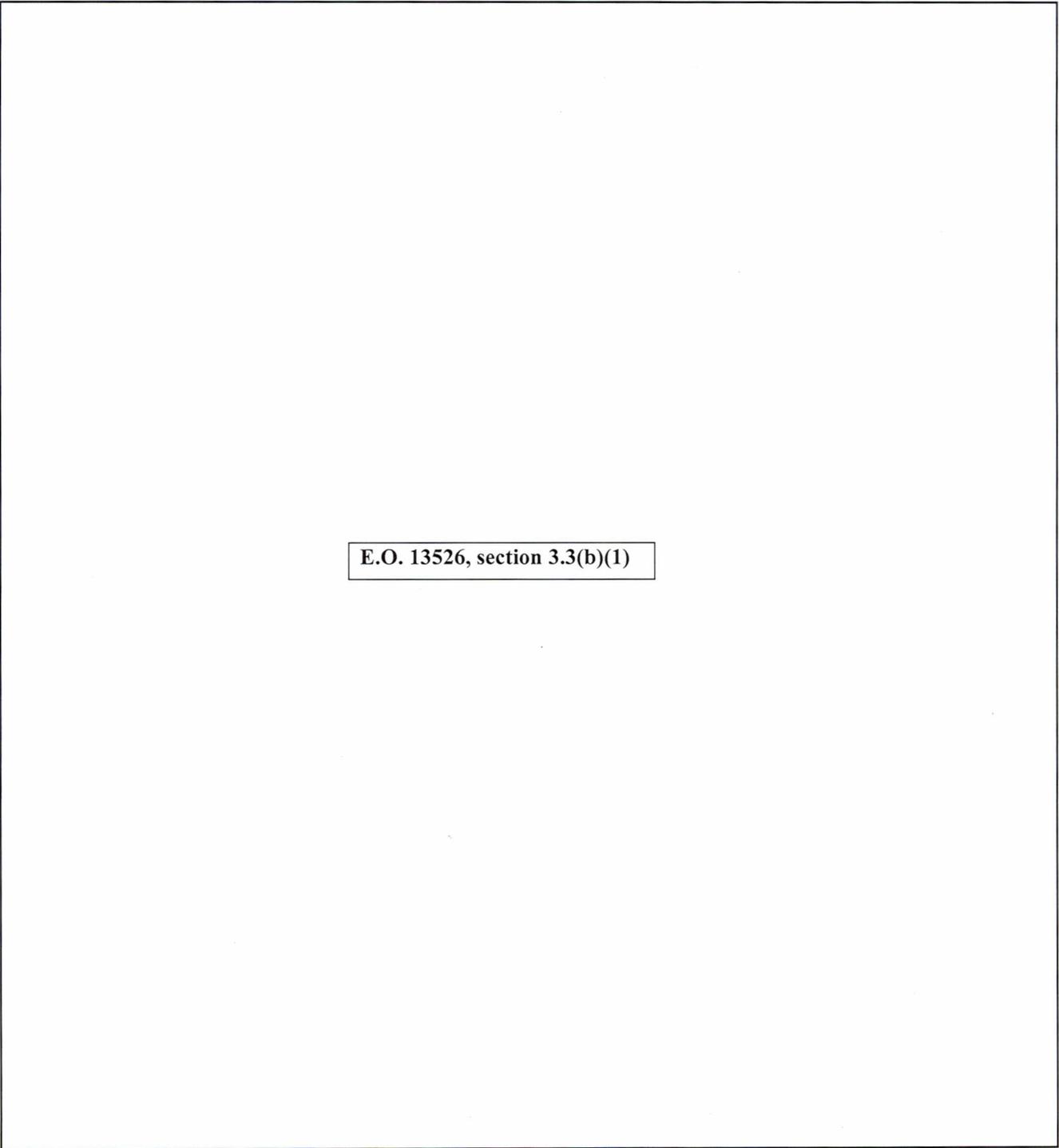
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Figure 1. ~~S~~ [redacted] Soviet Nuclear Weapons Rail Cars.

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ment of nuclear weapons.

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~(S)~~

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

**ROAD MOVEMENT**

~~(S)~~ The Soviets have traditionally used special motor transport vehicles for the road move-

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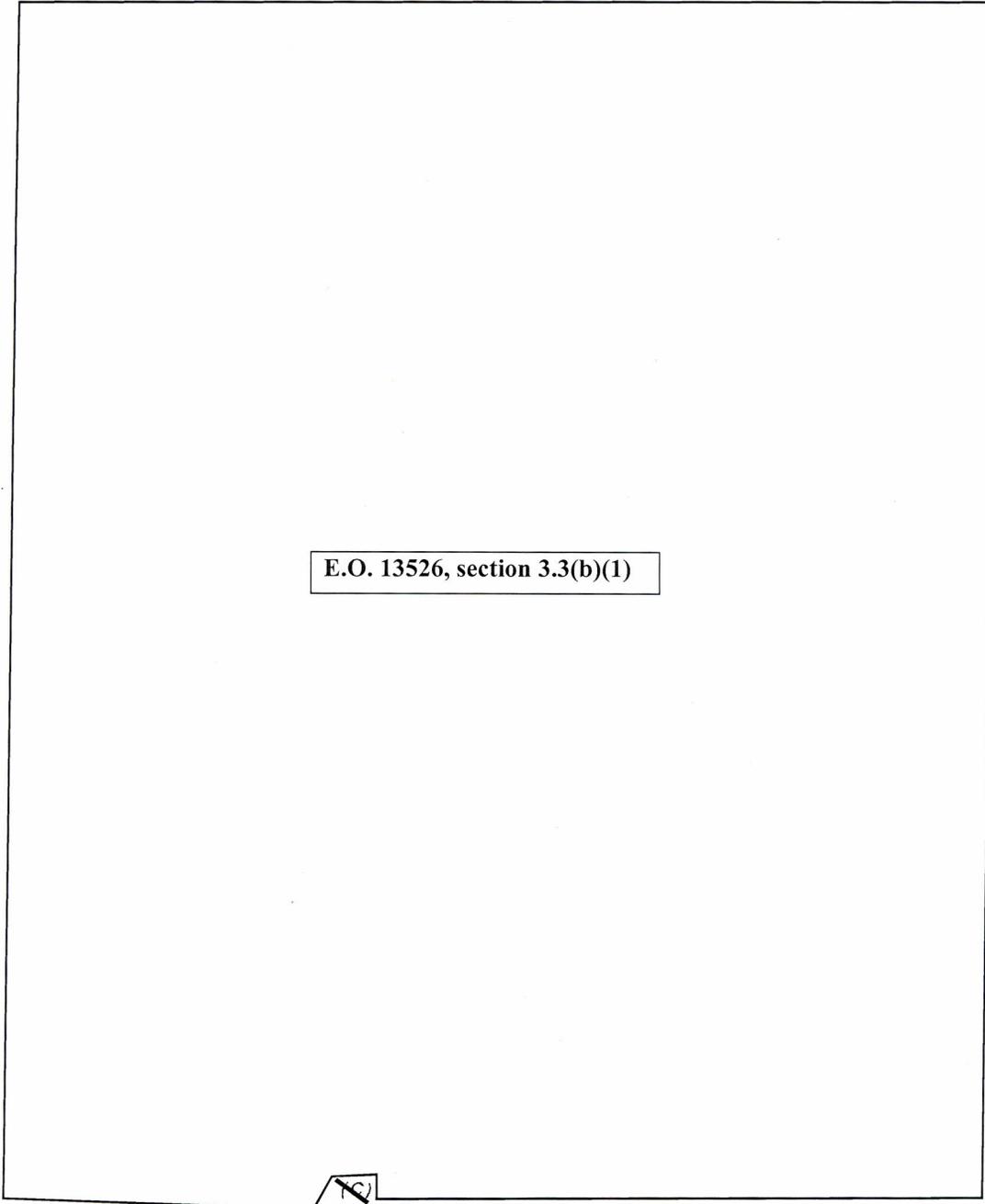
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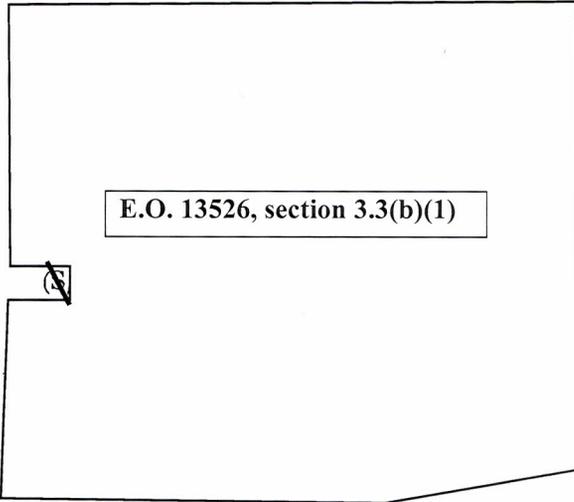
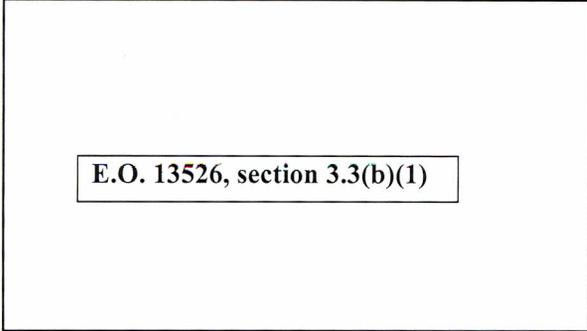


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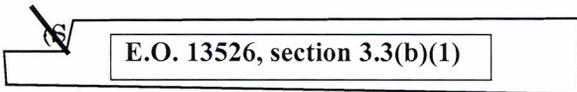
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**AIR MOVEMENT**



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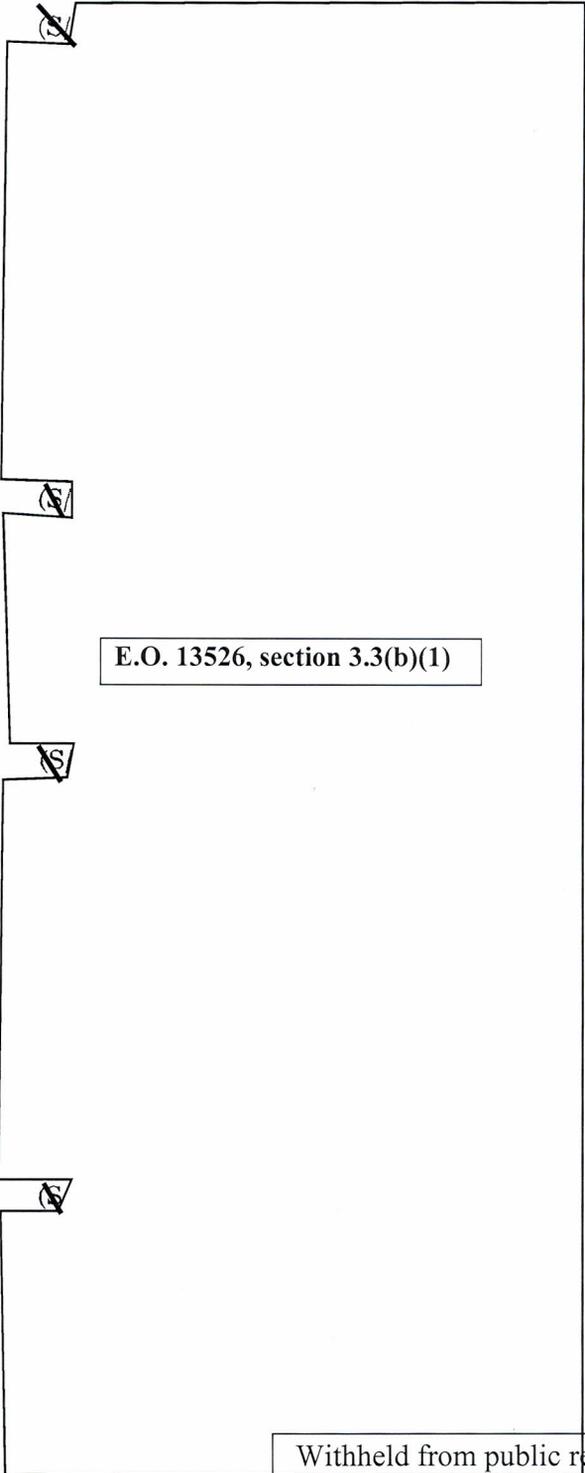
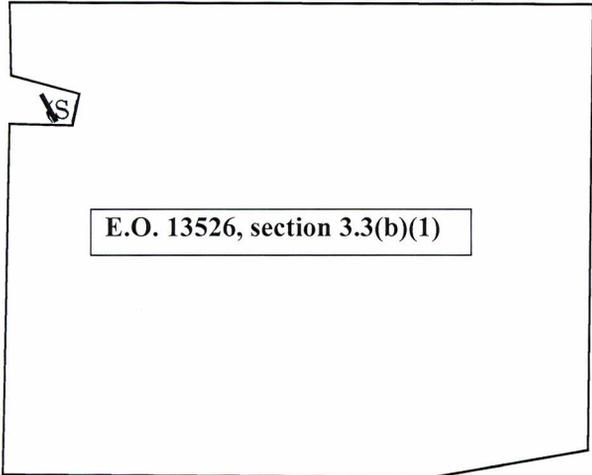
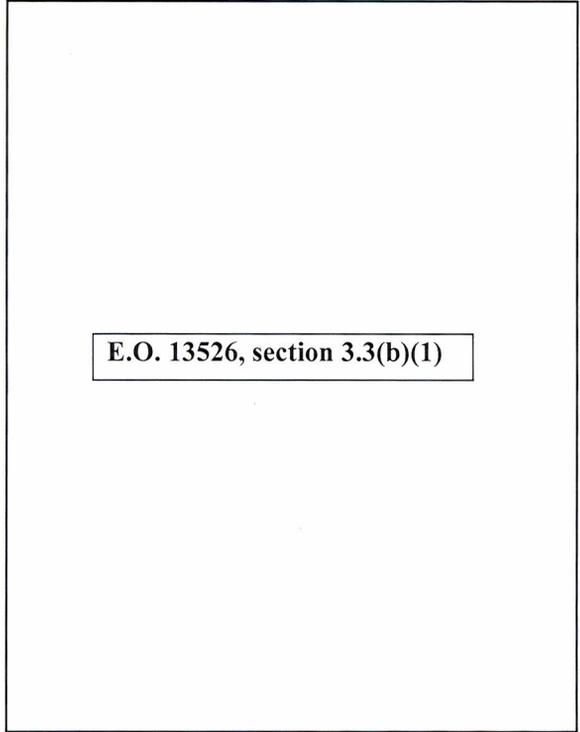
SECTION III

SOVIET NUCLEAR WEAPONS STORAGE BUNKERS

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

GENERAL

(S) [redacted] The Soviets use two basic designs for nuclear weapons storage bunkers, the [redacted]. These two designs have many common features probably imposed by Soviet requirements for safety and survivability of these structures.



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Figure 6. ~~(S)~~

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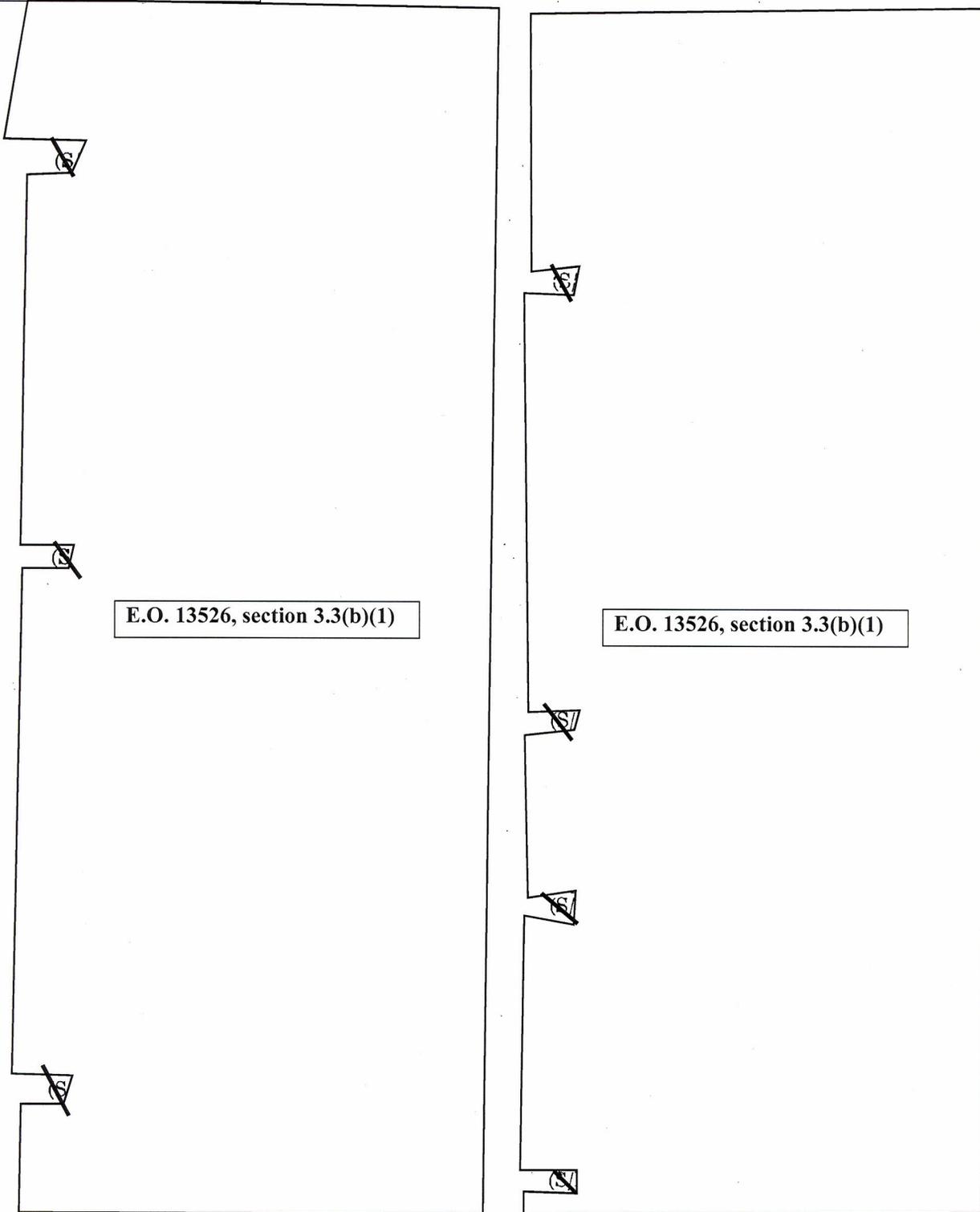
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<sup>2</sup>Measurements specify width x height.

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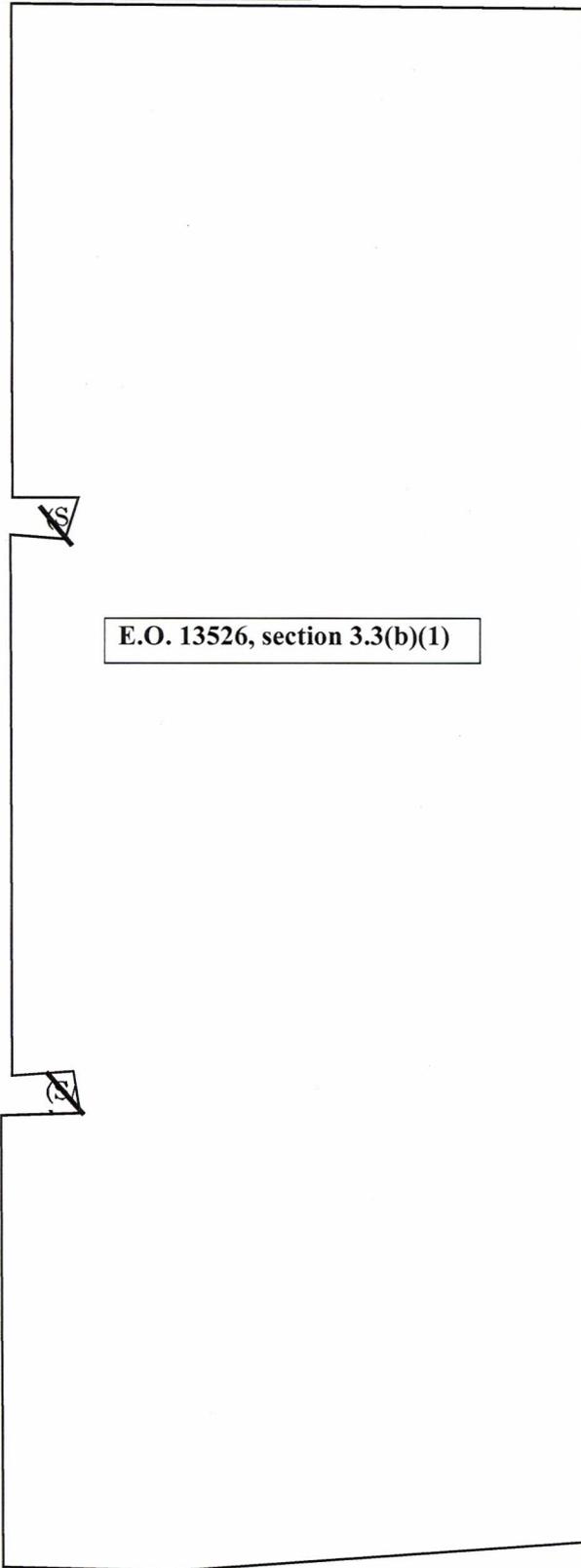
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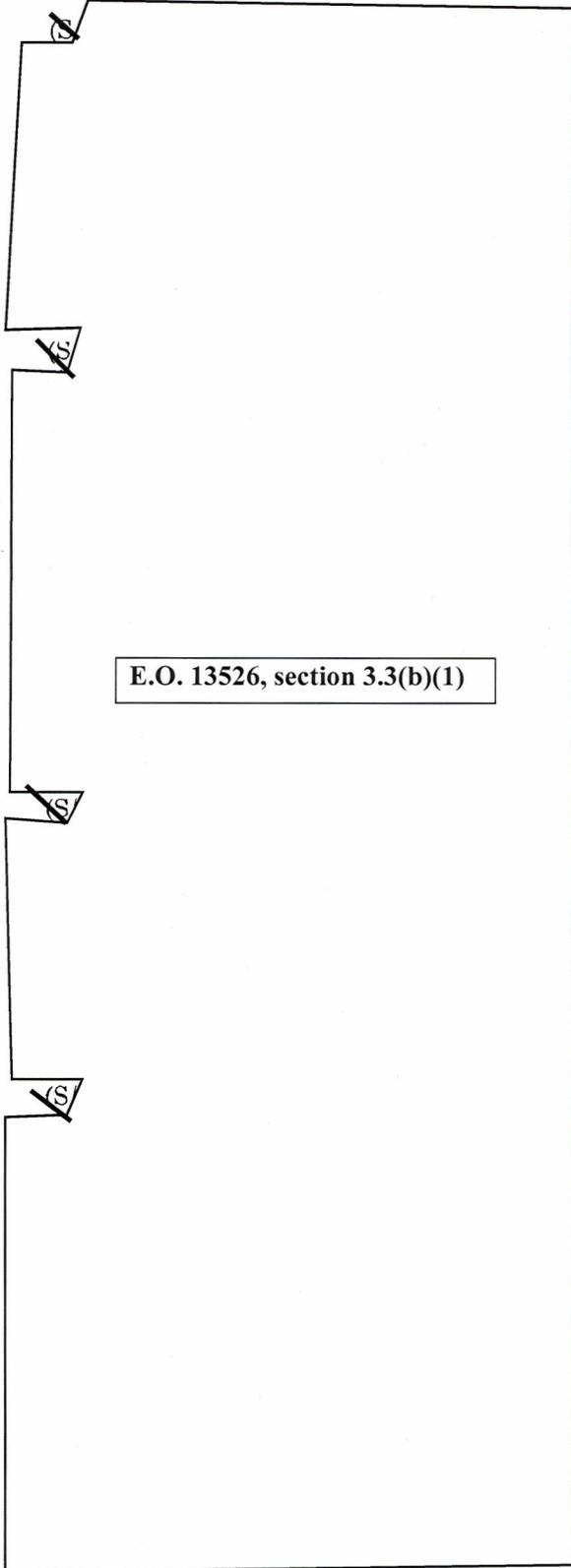
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(S) [redacted] The nuclear weapon contains high explosive, fissile material and electrical gear. Like all weapons it is required to function with certainty if used against an enemy but otherwise be safe to handle, transport and store. Weapon design is aimed towards this, but because of its destructive power, and the fact that it is not programmed to differentiate between friend or foe, the nuclear weapon is always afforded special attention to ensure that a weapon accident or incident does not occur.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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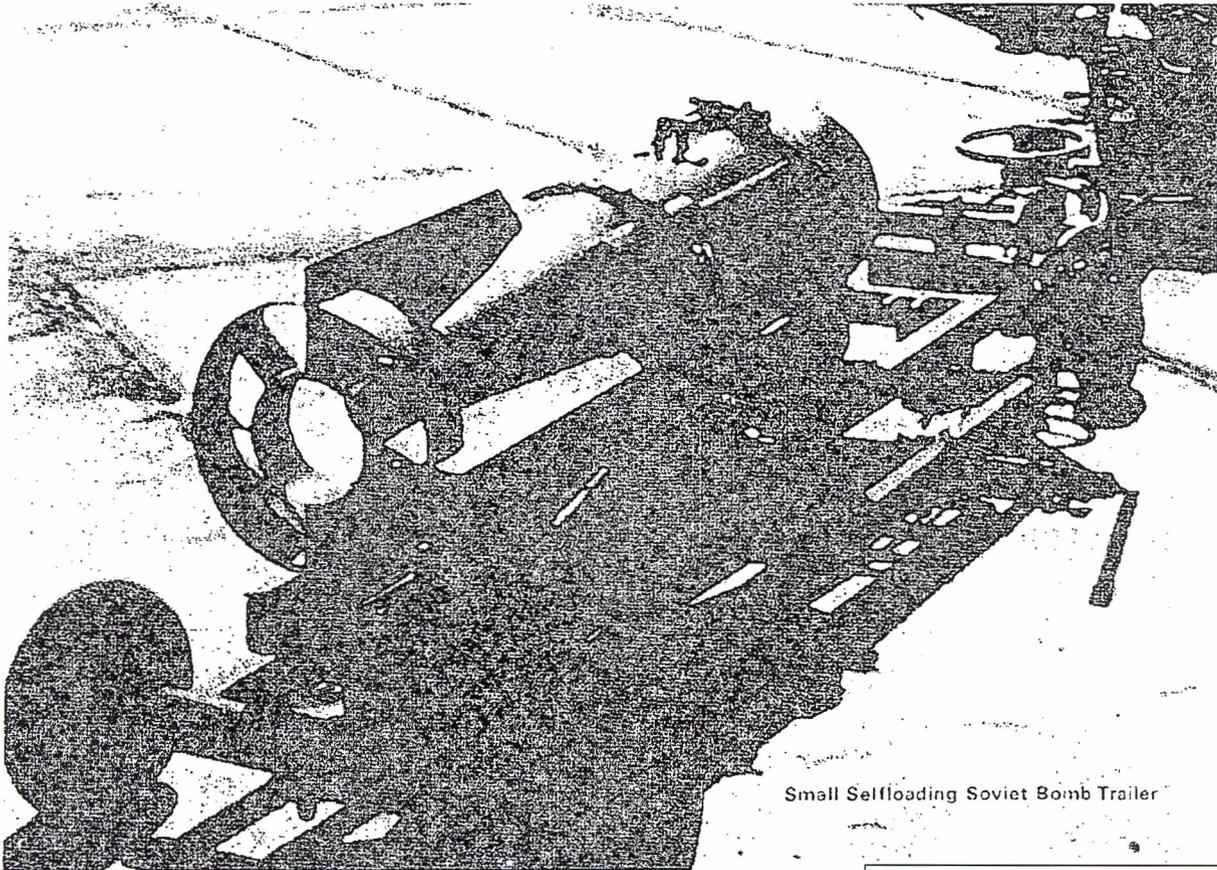
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UNCLASSIFIED



Small Selfloading Soviet Bomb Trailer

Figure 14. (U) Soviet Bomb Trailers.

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SECTION IV

SOVIET NUCLEAR WEAPONS LOGISTICS OPERATIONS

GENERAL

~~(S)~~ Our understanding of present Soviet nuclear logistic doctrine and practices is obtained to some extent by examining historical data. Soviet military planning has been strongly influenced by the USSR's experiences in World War II. In that conflict the Soviets were subjected to a massive surprise attack, and their logistic system was forced to deal with the widespread disruption and destruction of lines of communication. Centers of supply and distribution were either overrun or destroyed, demonstrating the need for mobility, dispersal, and reserve stocks. Available intelligence information and Soviet military literature indicate that the Soviets have learned from their experiences in their Great Patriotic War of some 40 years ago, and are prepared to support their nuclear-capable forces utilizing dispersed, multi-echeloned, and mobile nuclear logistic assets.

~~(S)~~ E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~(S)~~ There are four main categories of Soviet nuclear weapon storage sites (NWSS).

~~(S)~~ E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

~~(S)~~ E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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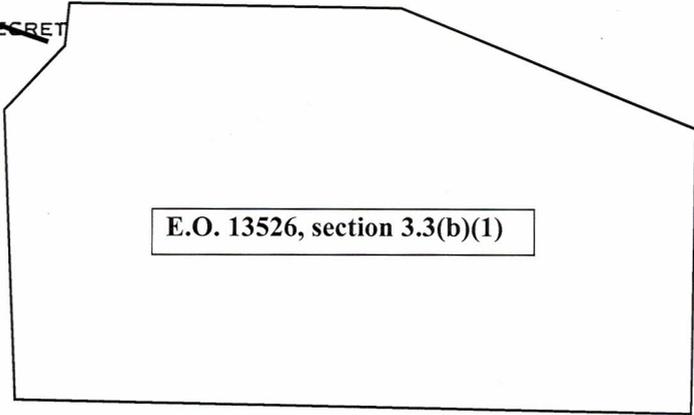
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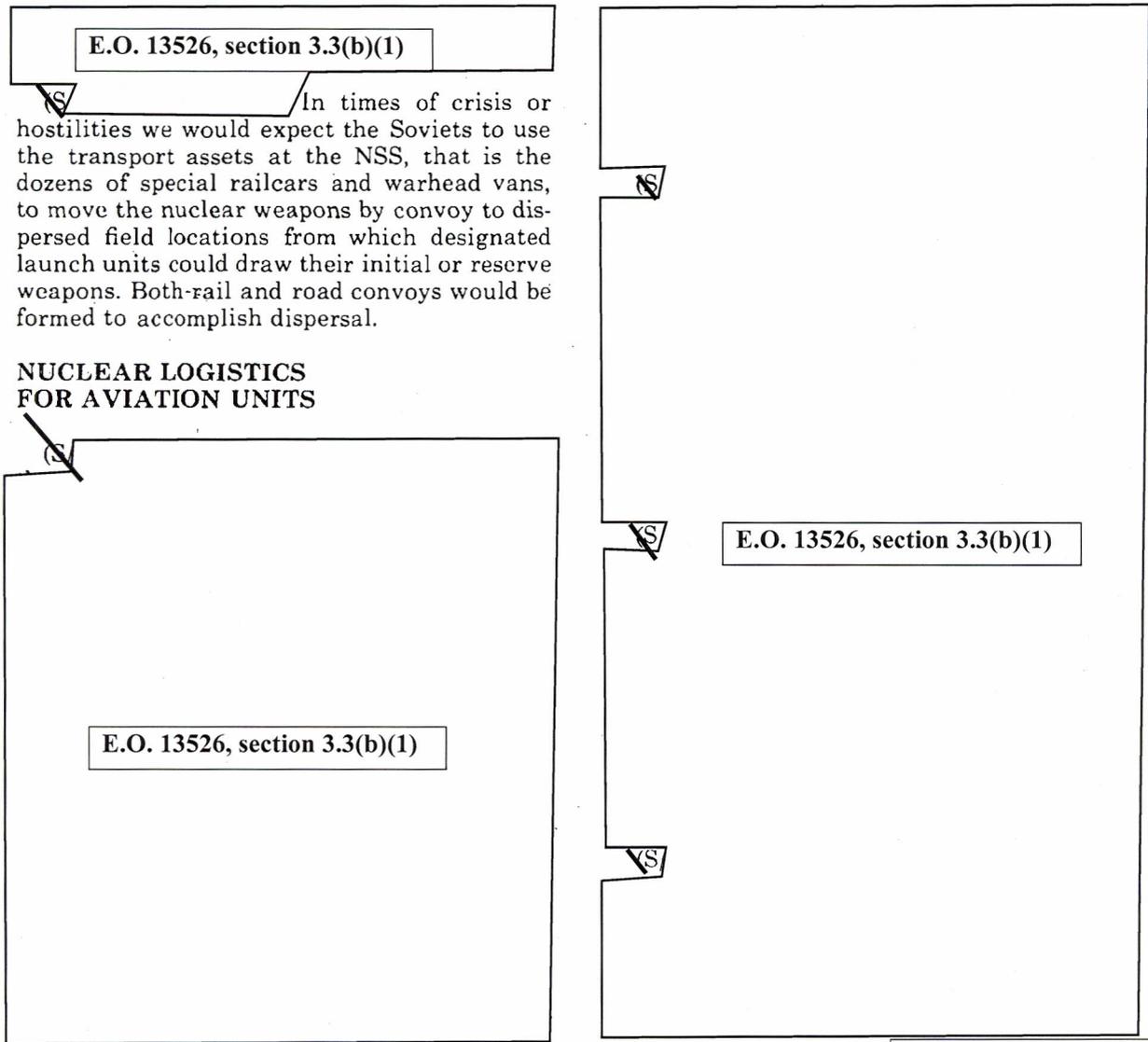
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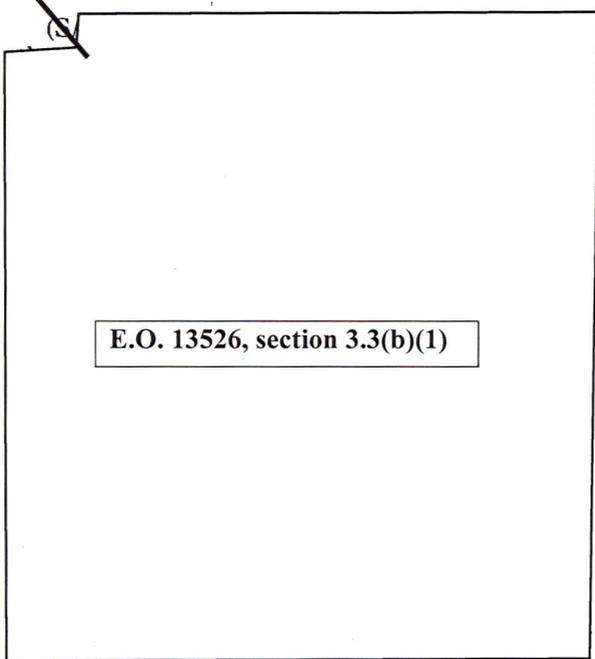
Figure 16. (U) Organization of National Stockpile Site. UR.



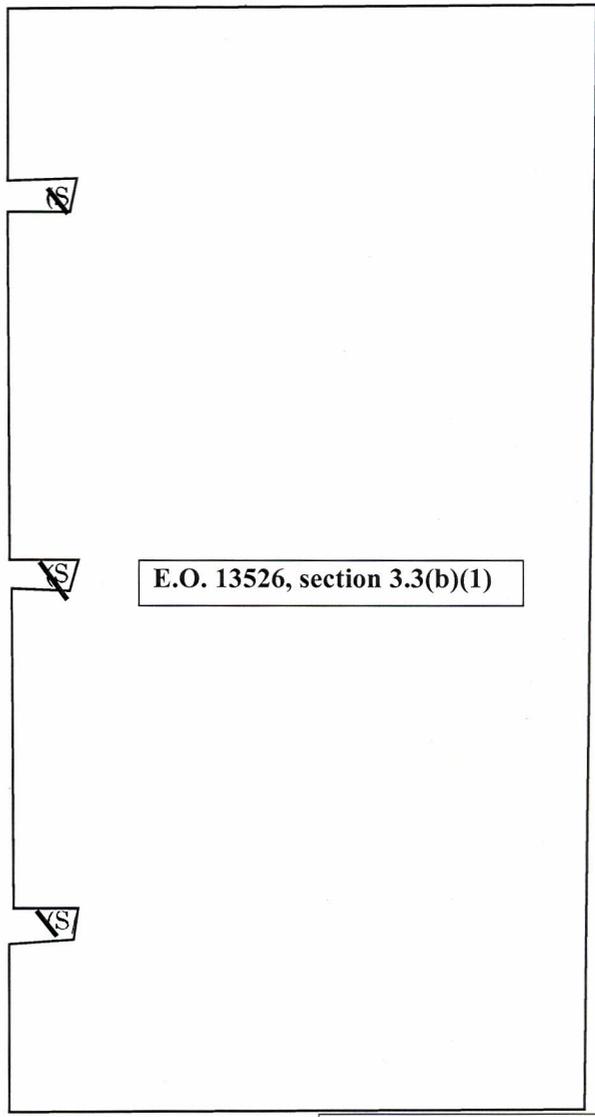
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In times of crisis or hostilities we would expect the Soviets to use the transport assets at the NSS, that is the dozens of special railcars and warhead vans, to move the nuclear weapons by convoy to dispersed field locations from which designated launch units could draw their initial or reserve weapons. Both-rail and road convoys would be formed to accomplish dispersal.

**NUCLEAR LOGISTICS  
FOR AVIATION UNITS**



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

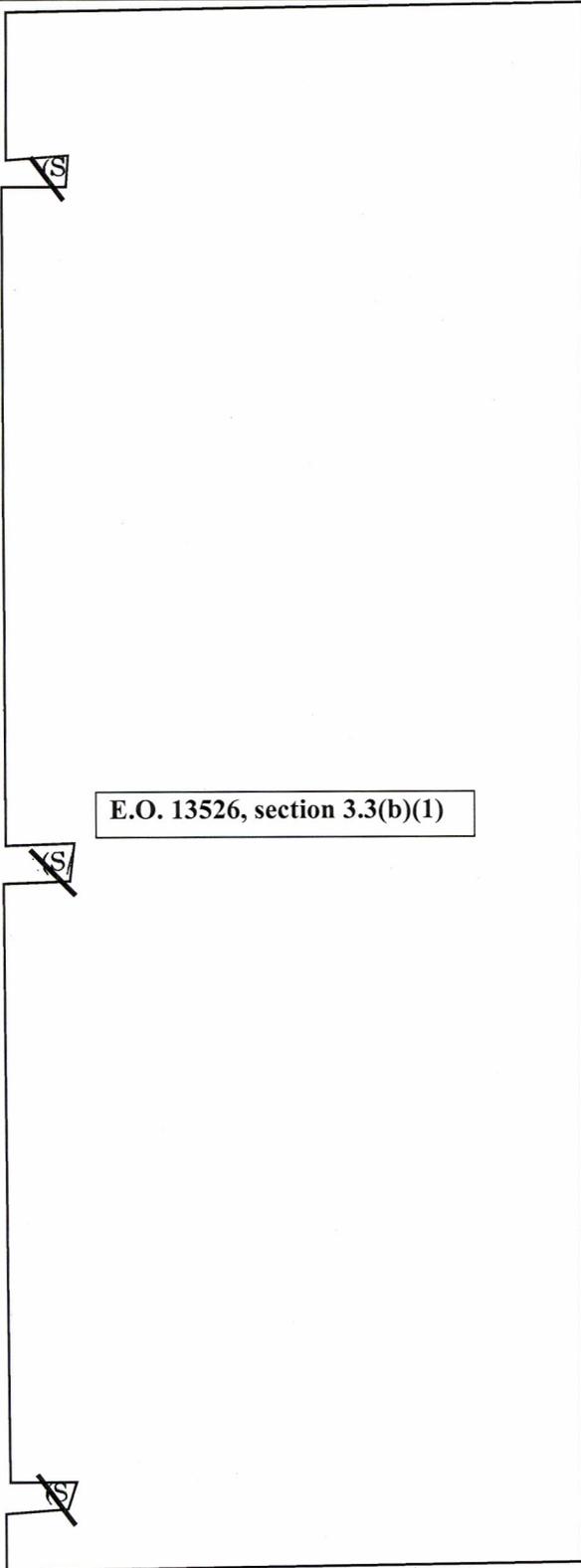
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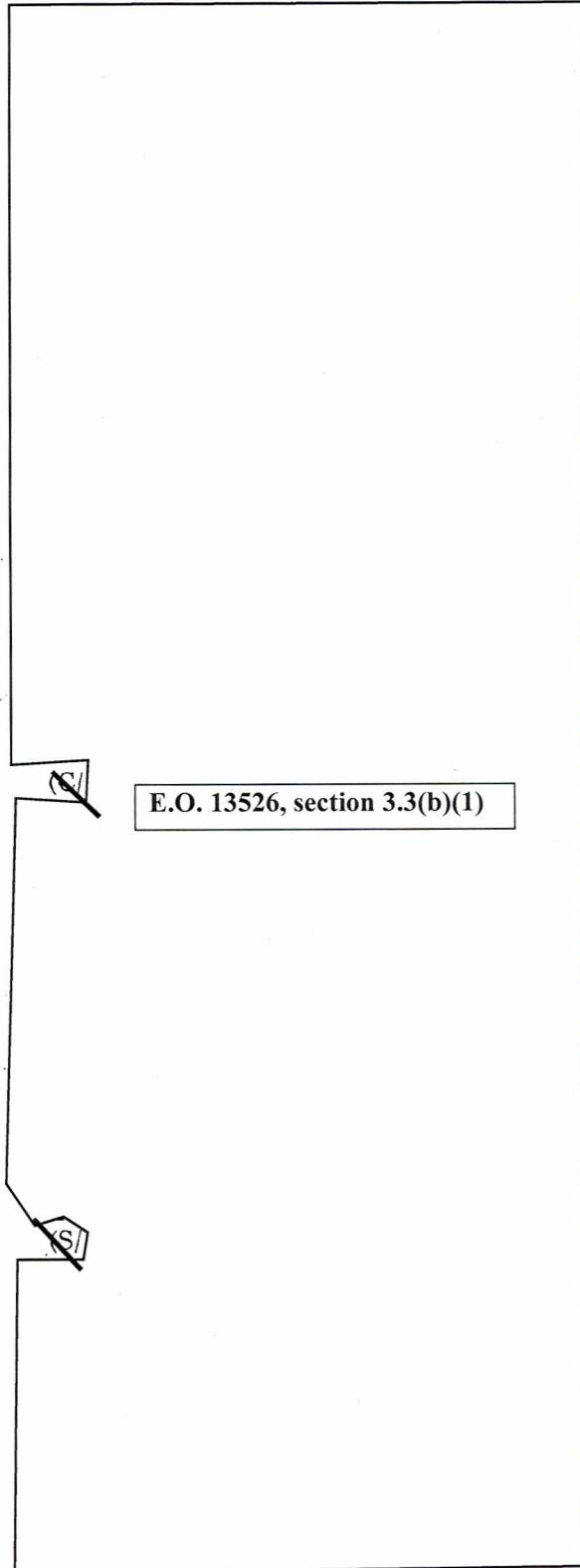
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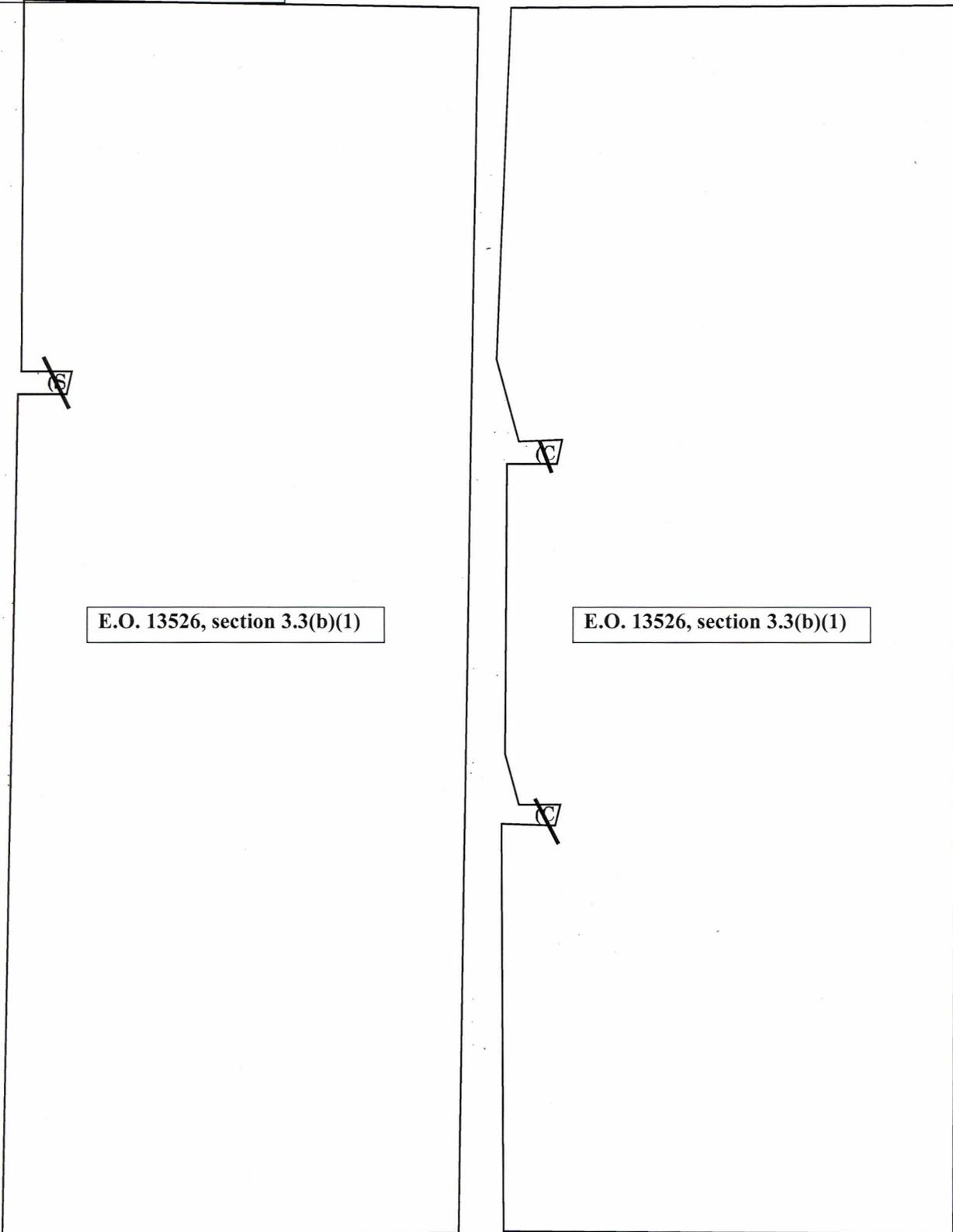
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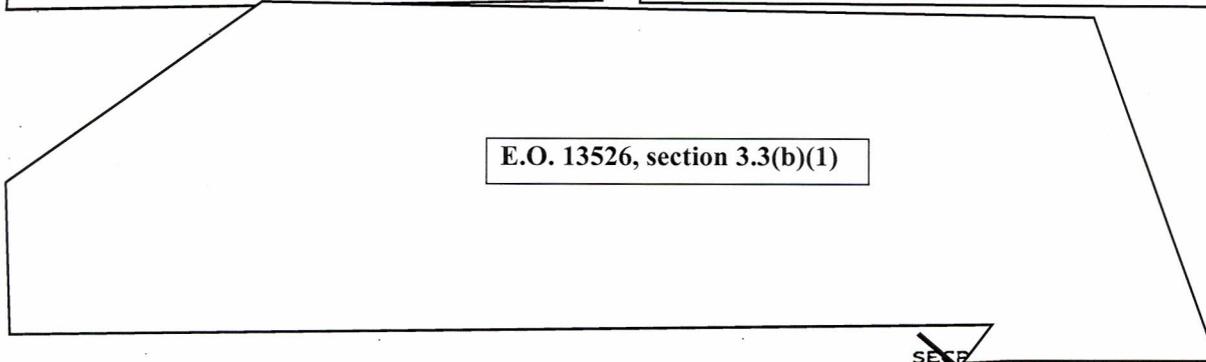
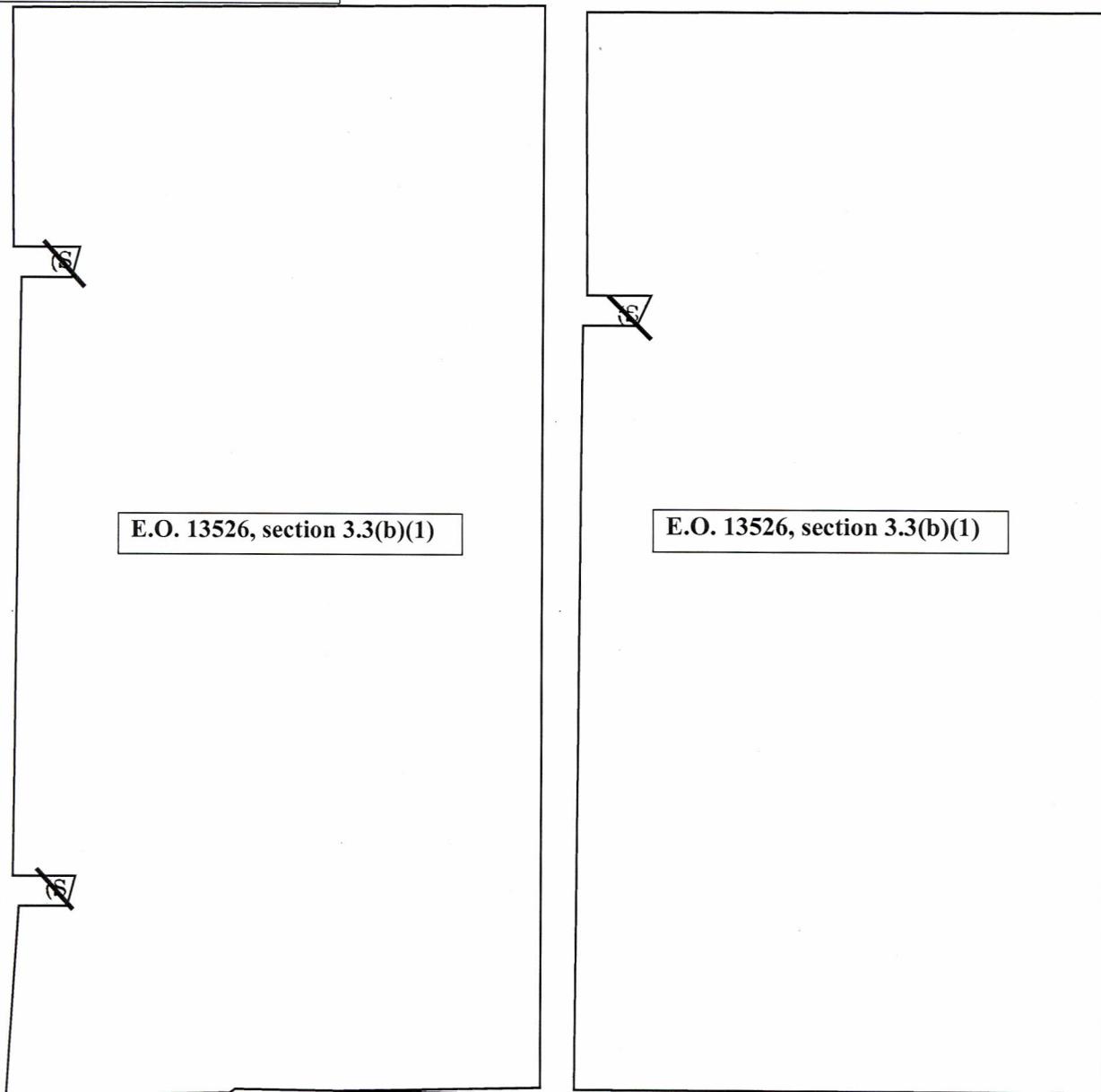
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

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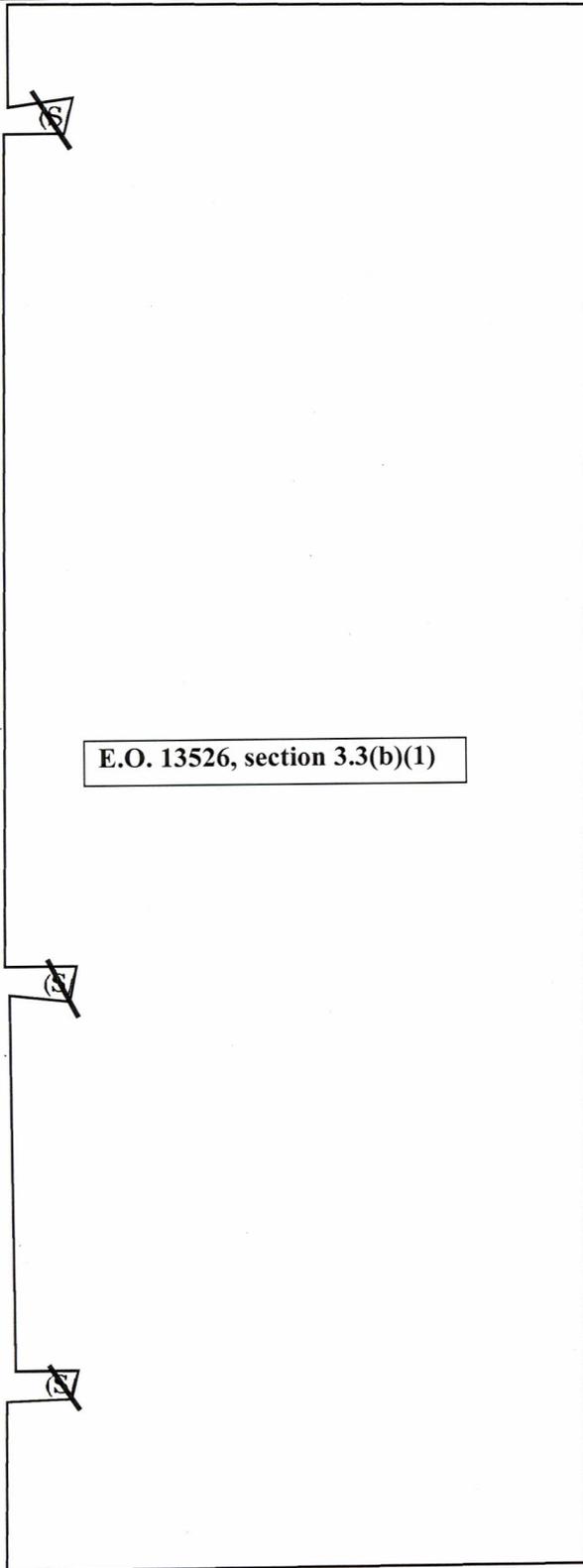
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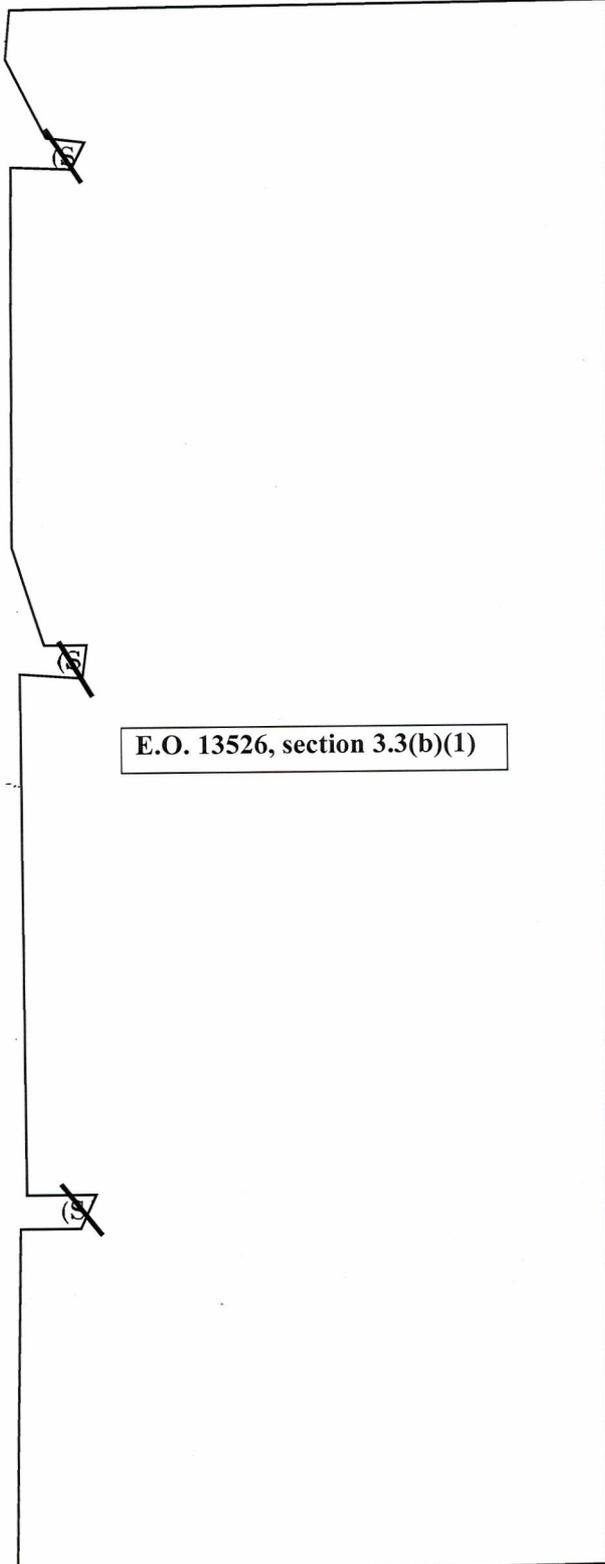
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



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## NUCLEAR LOGISTICS FOR NAVAL UNITS

### General

~~(S)~~ [redacted] The Soviet Navy has a wide variety of nuclear-capable weapons systems. Soviet Naval Aviation (SNA) is equipped with nuclear capable bombs and air-to-surface missiles (ASMs). Surface combatants have been reported to carry nuclear-capable SAMs, cruise missiles, rocket-assisted depth bombs, 152 mm. naval guns, and torpedoes. Sea launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), rocket-assisted depth bombs, cruise missiles and torpedoes with nuclear warheads are deployed on Soviet submarines. The nuclear weapons logistic system that supports these forces is similar to that which supports the other four services of the Soviet armed forces.

[redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted]  
E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] Logistic support ships of the Soviet Navy such as missile tenders, ammunition ships, and submarine tenders could be available for logistic support of nuclear-capable Soviet naval units.

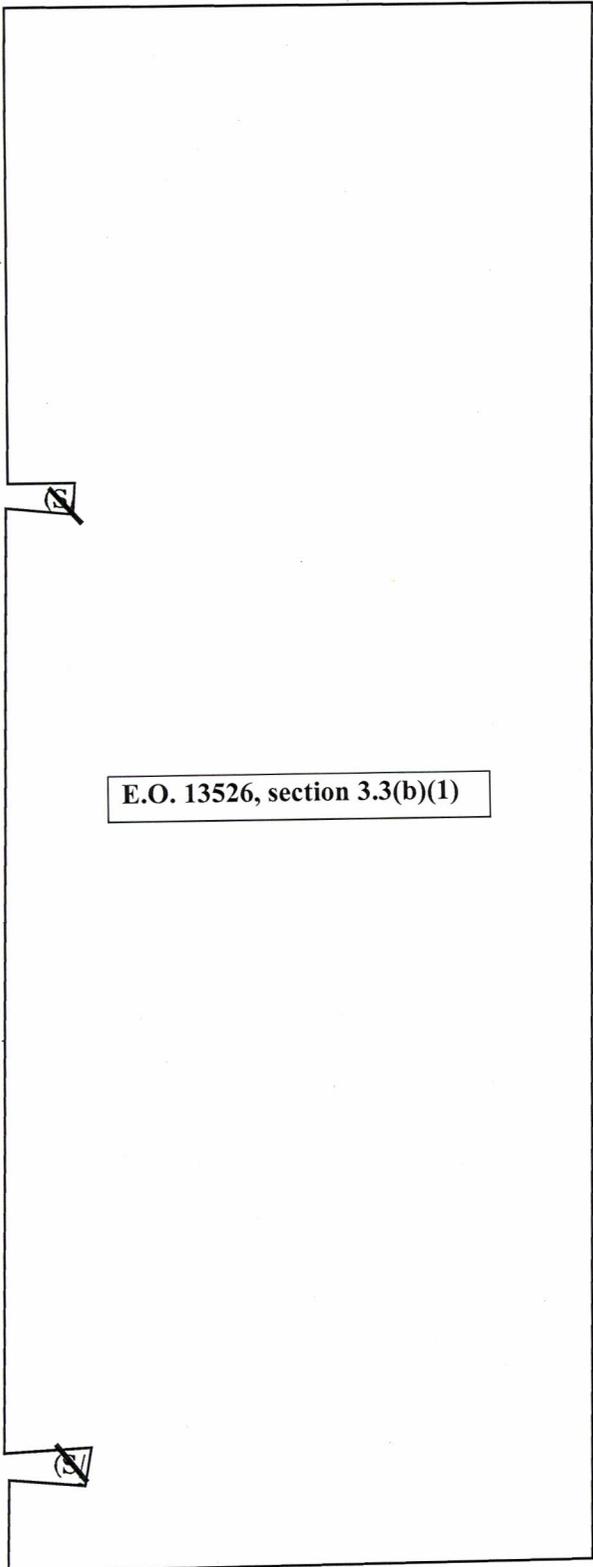
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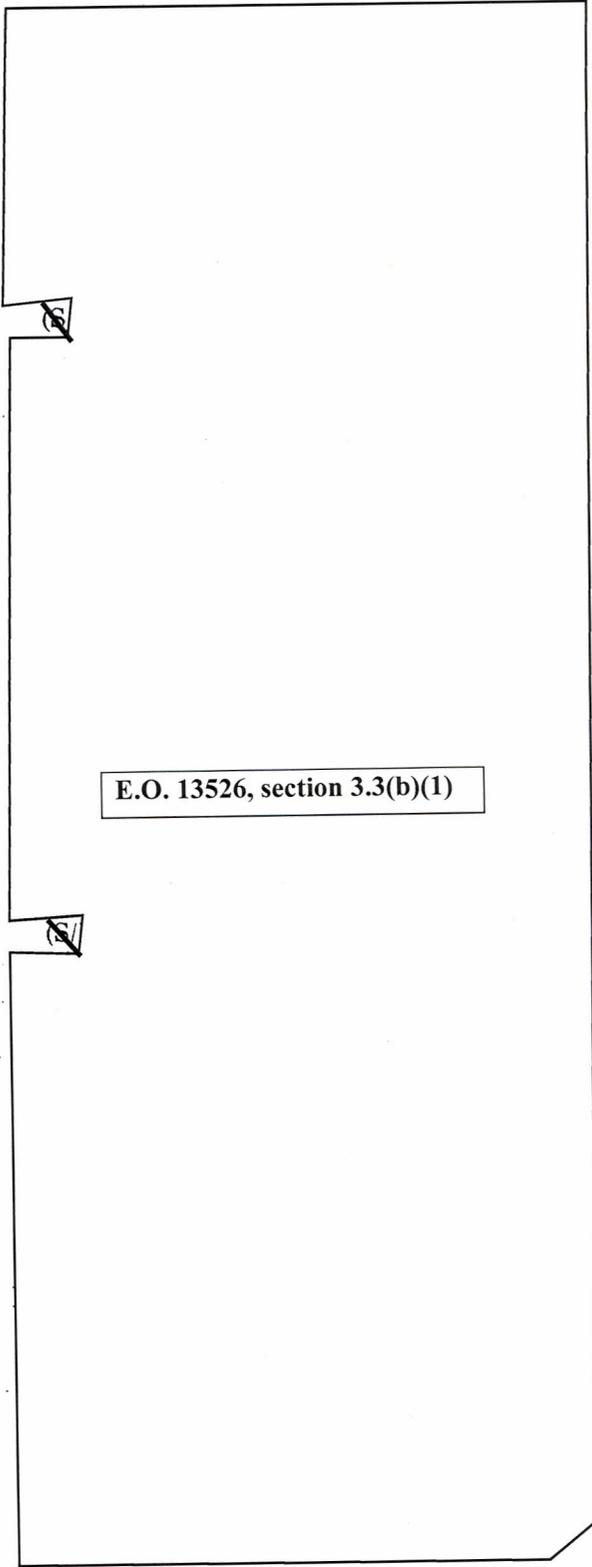
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

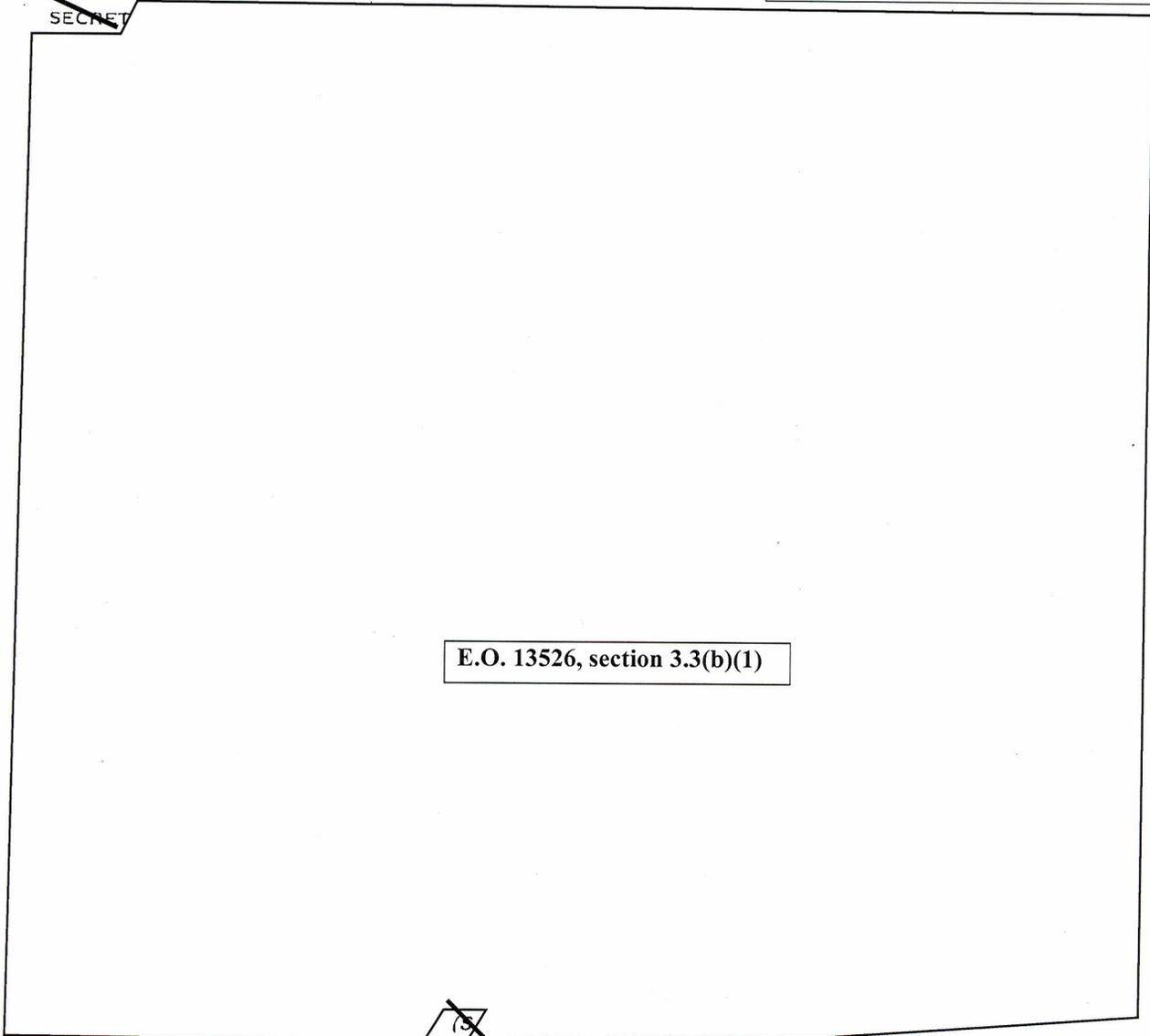
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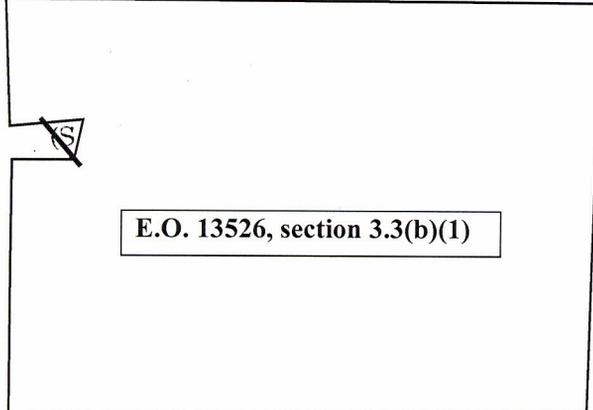
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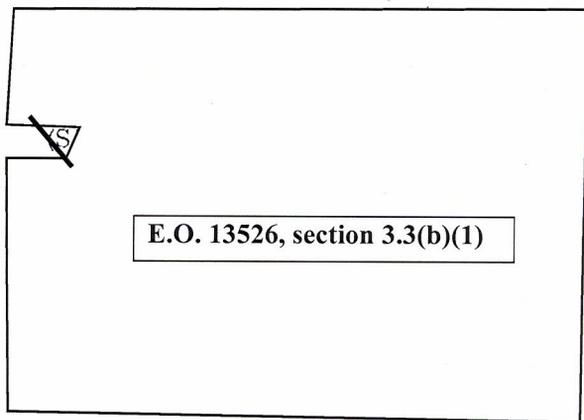
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



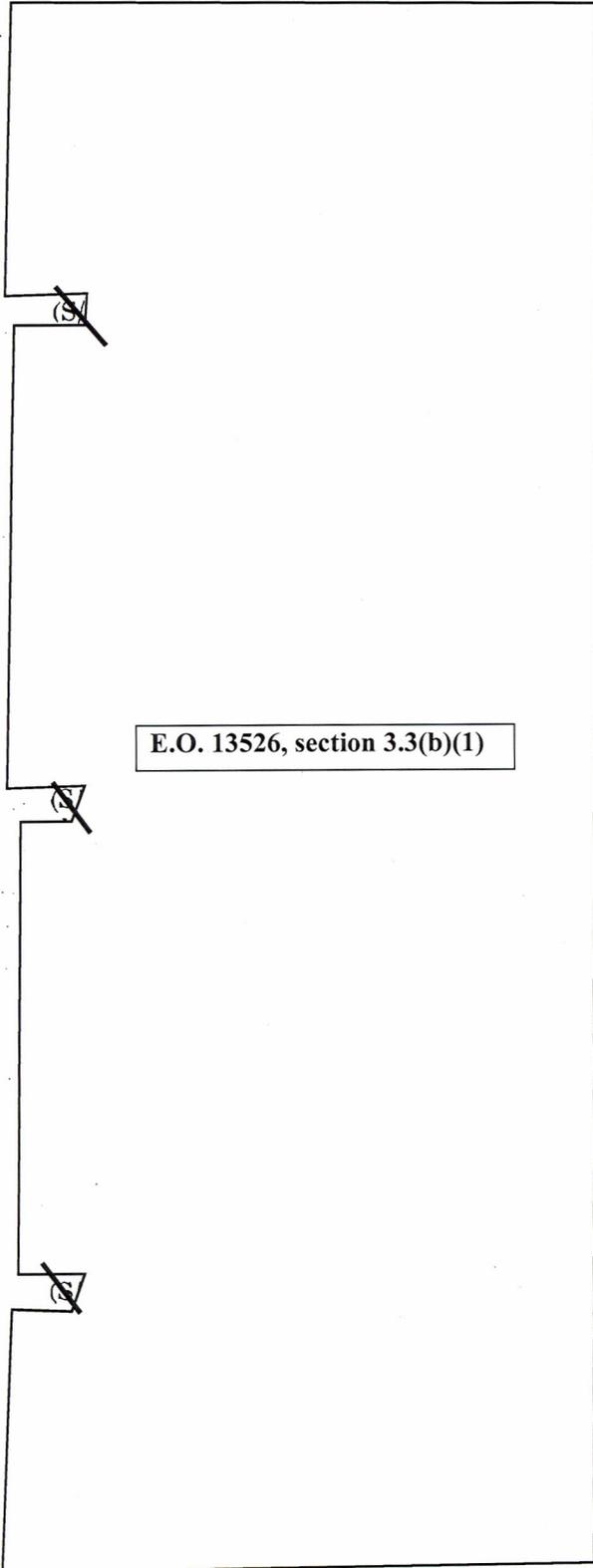
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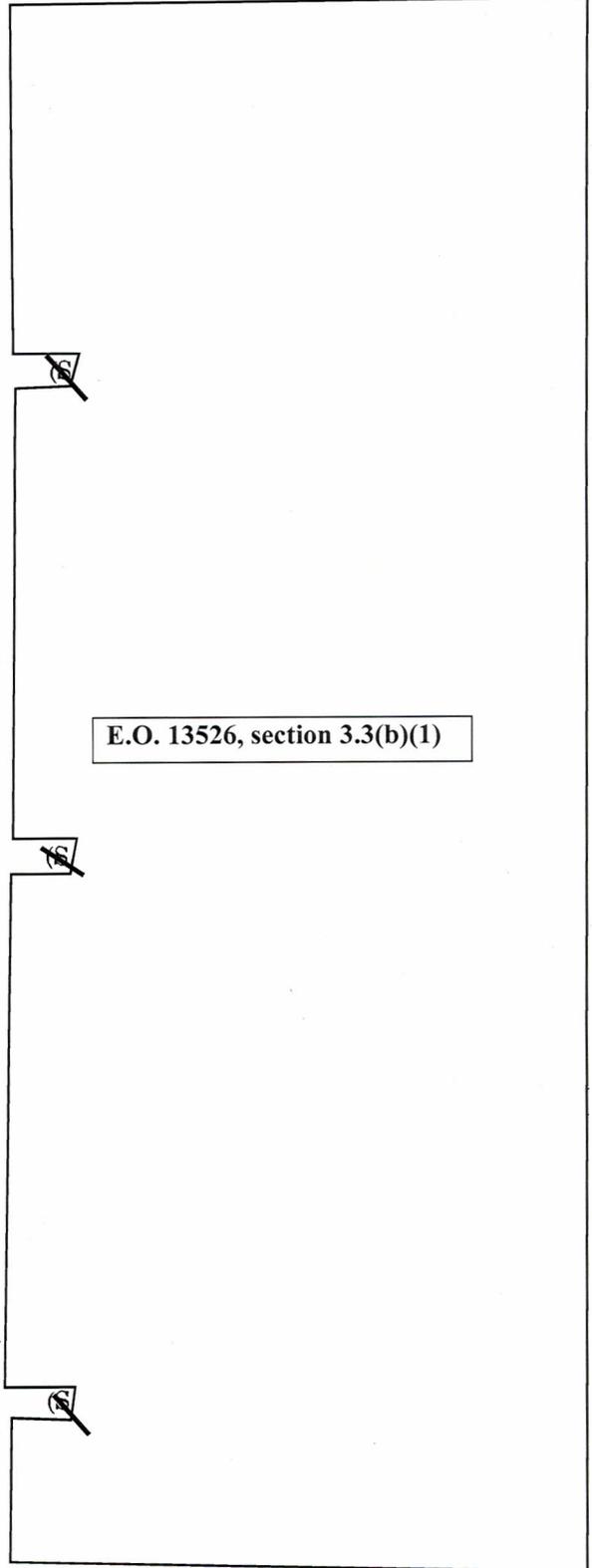
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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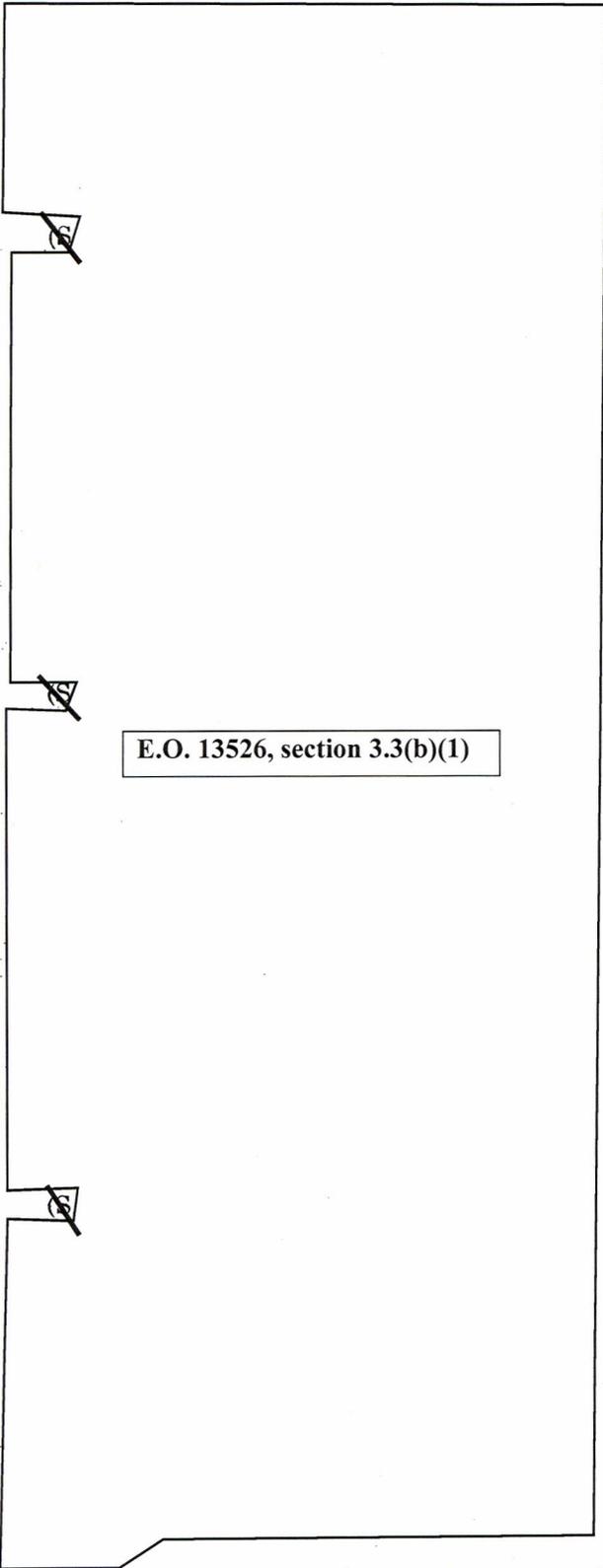
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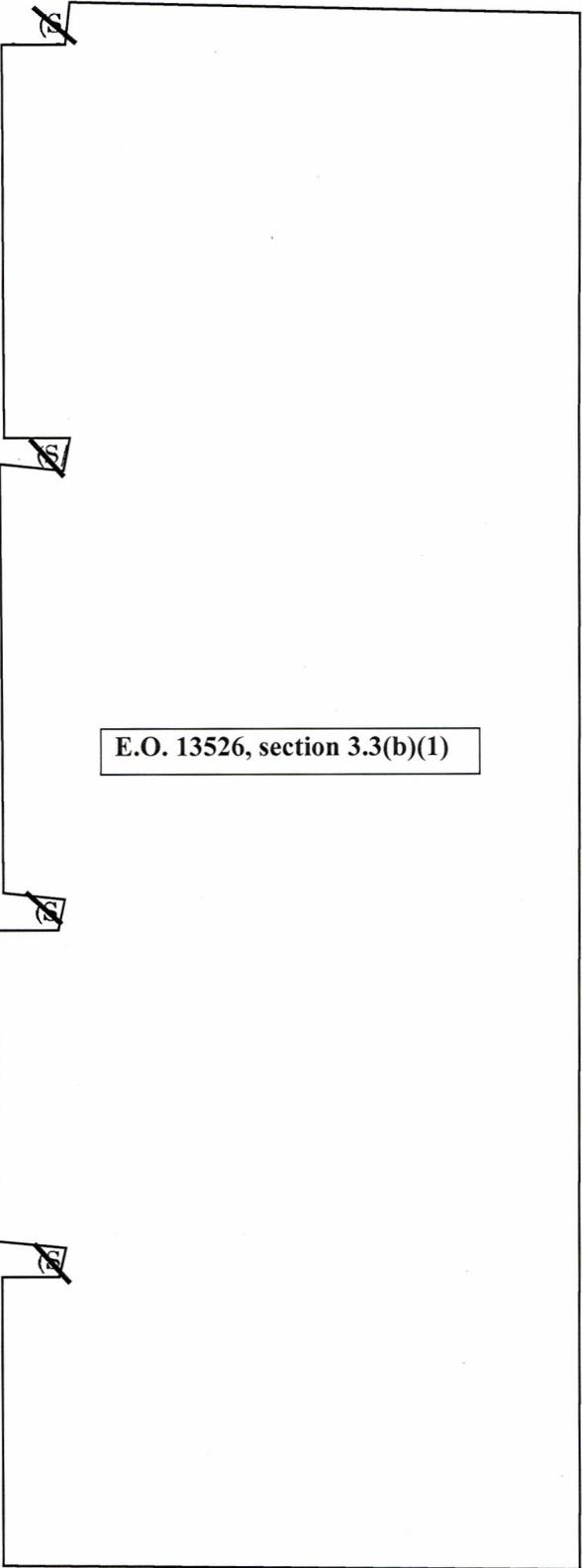
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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

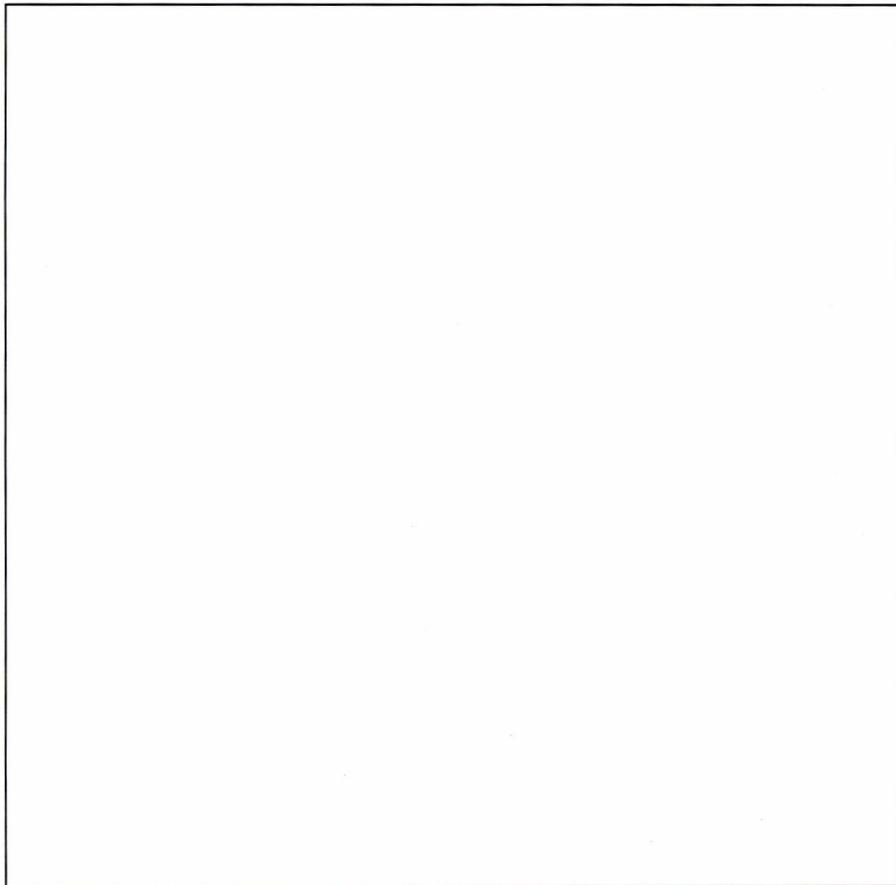
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APPENDIX A

NATIONAL STOCKPILE SITES (U)



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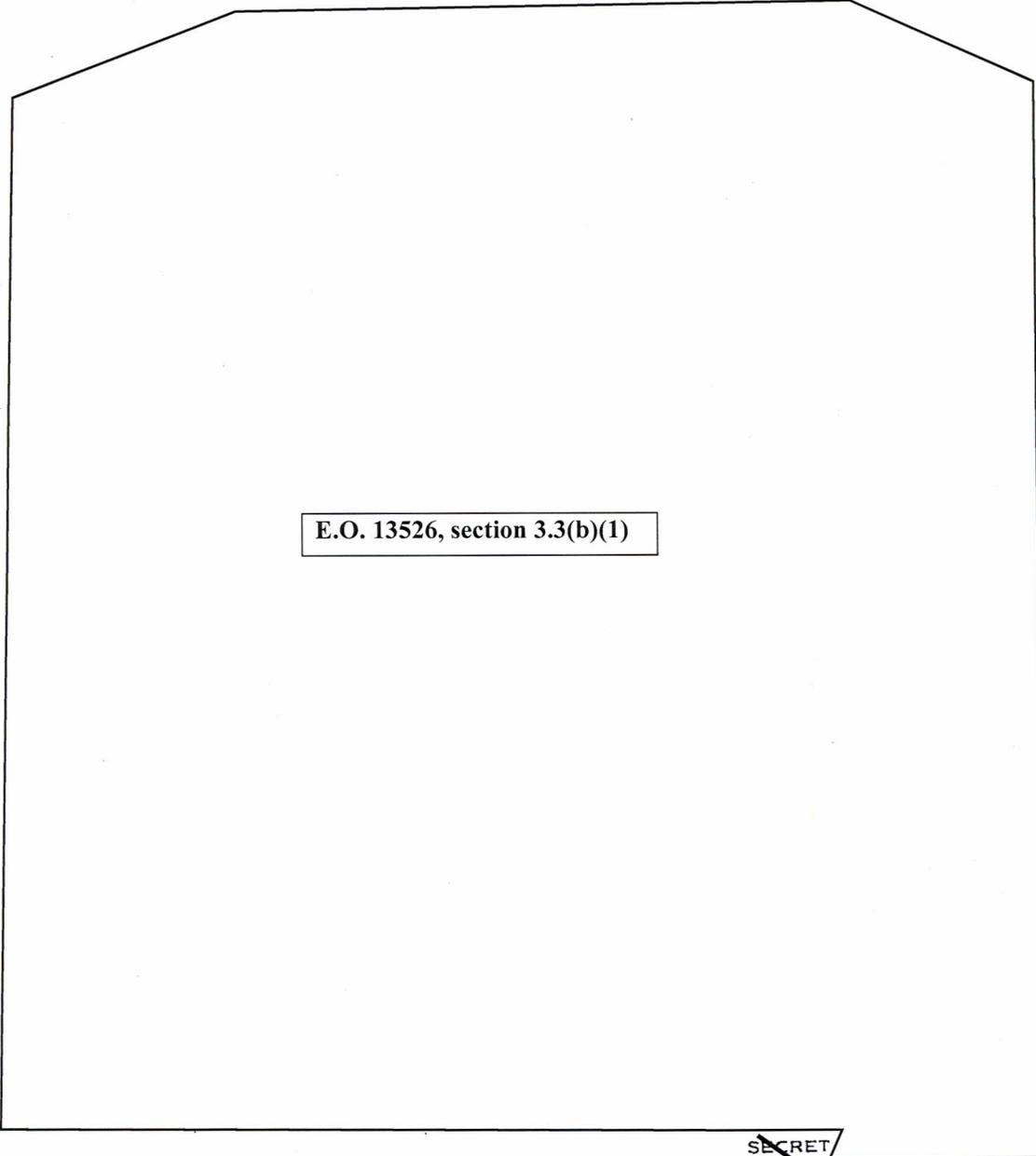
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APPENDIX B



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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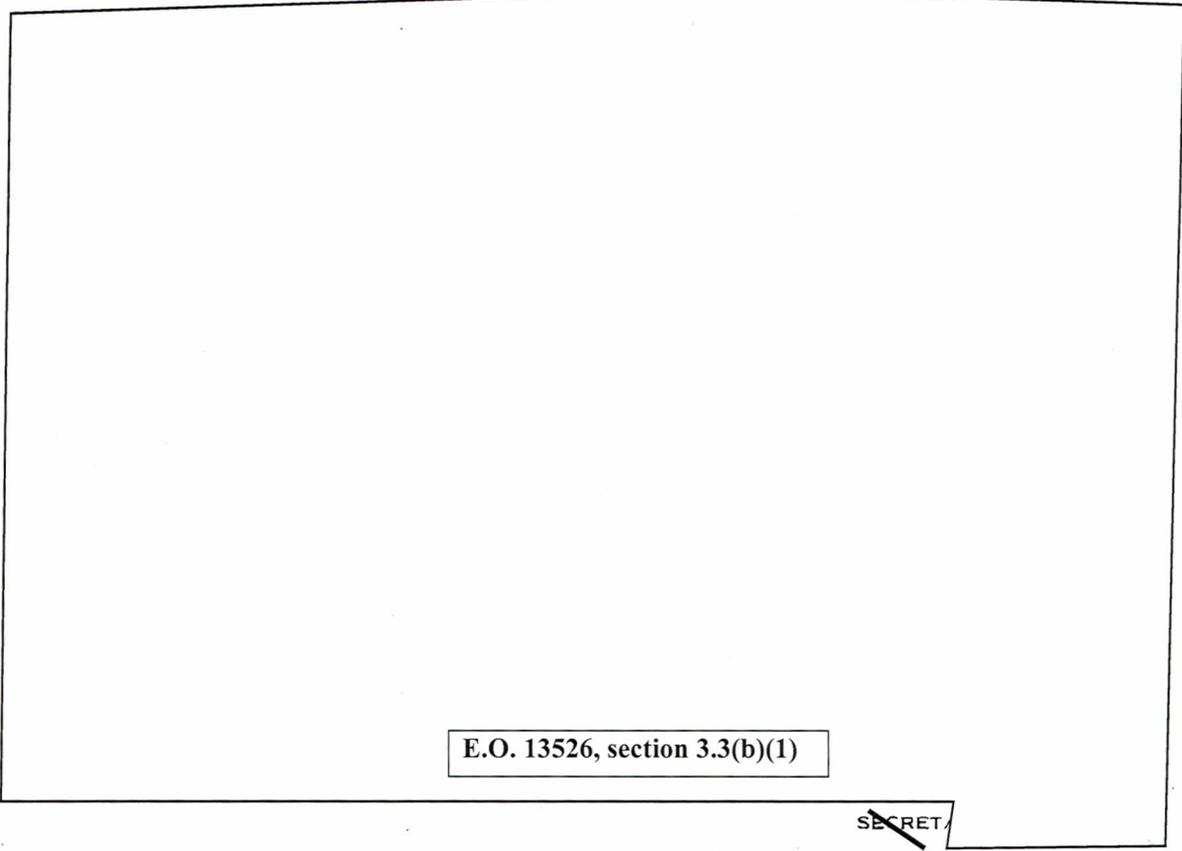
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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX B (continued)



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

APPENDIX B (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX B (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

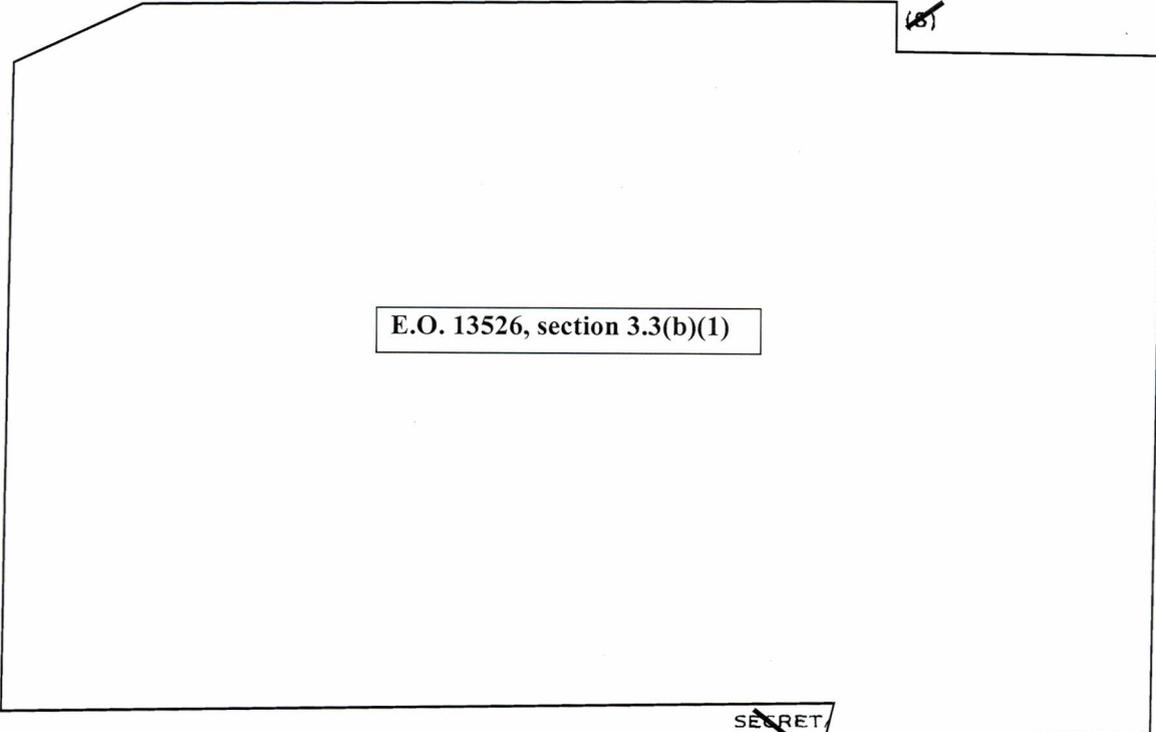
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APPENDIX C



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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APPENDIX C (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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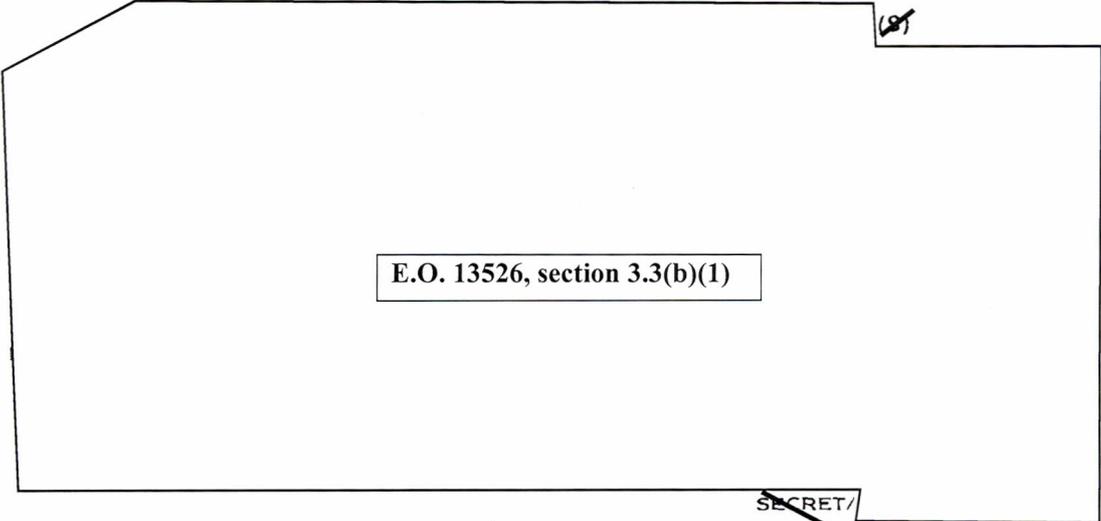
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APPENDIX D



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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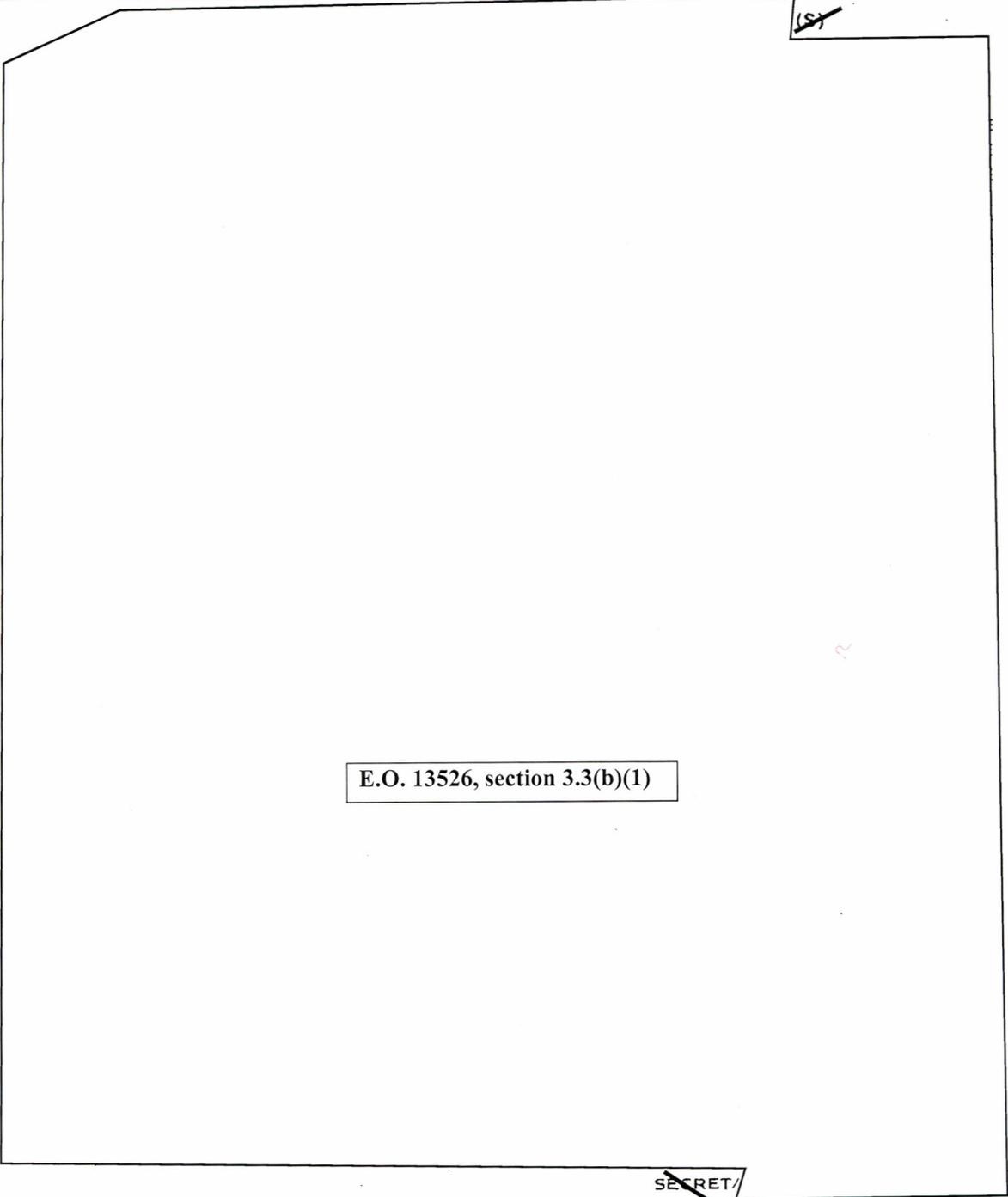
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APPENDIX E



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX E (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX E (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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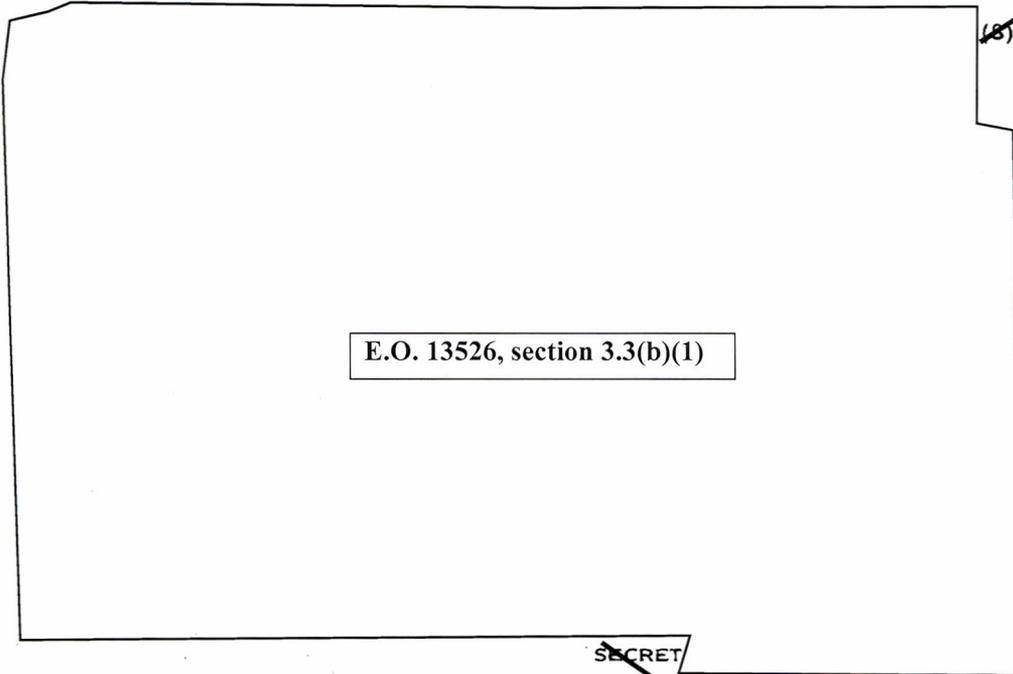
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APPENDIX F



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

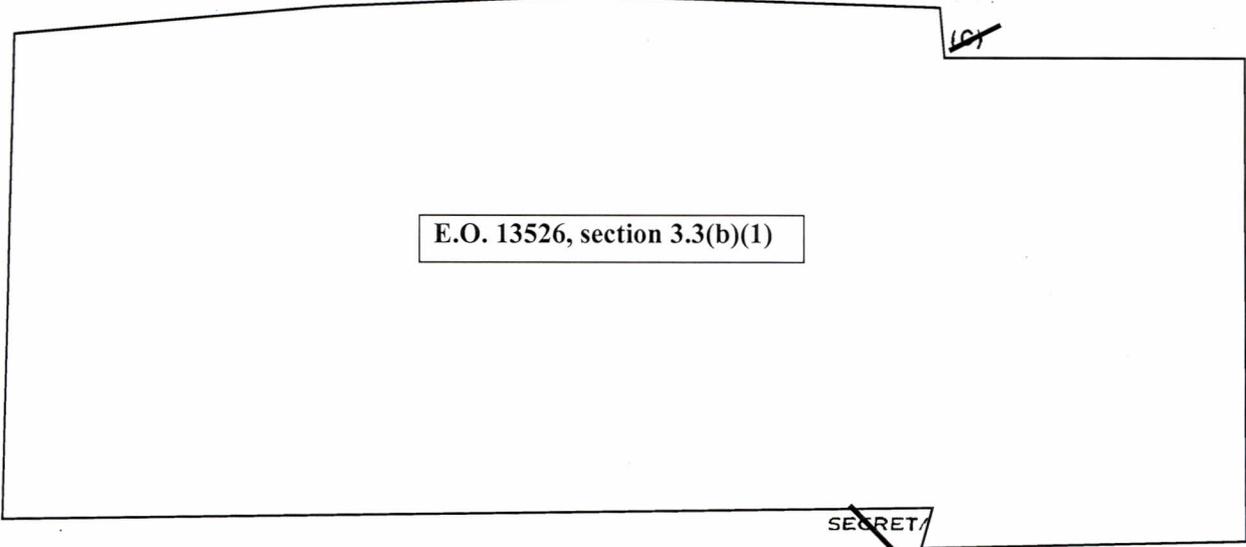
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APPENDIX G



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX H

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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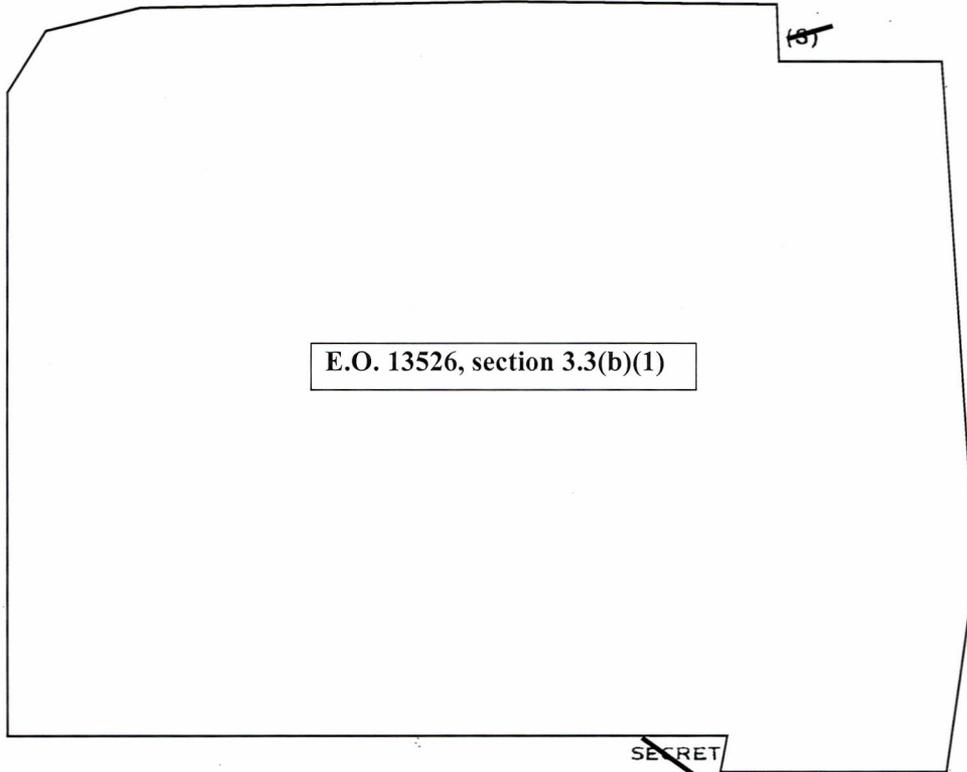
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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX I



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX I (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX I (continued)

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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APPENDIX J

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E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX K

E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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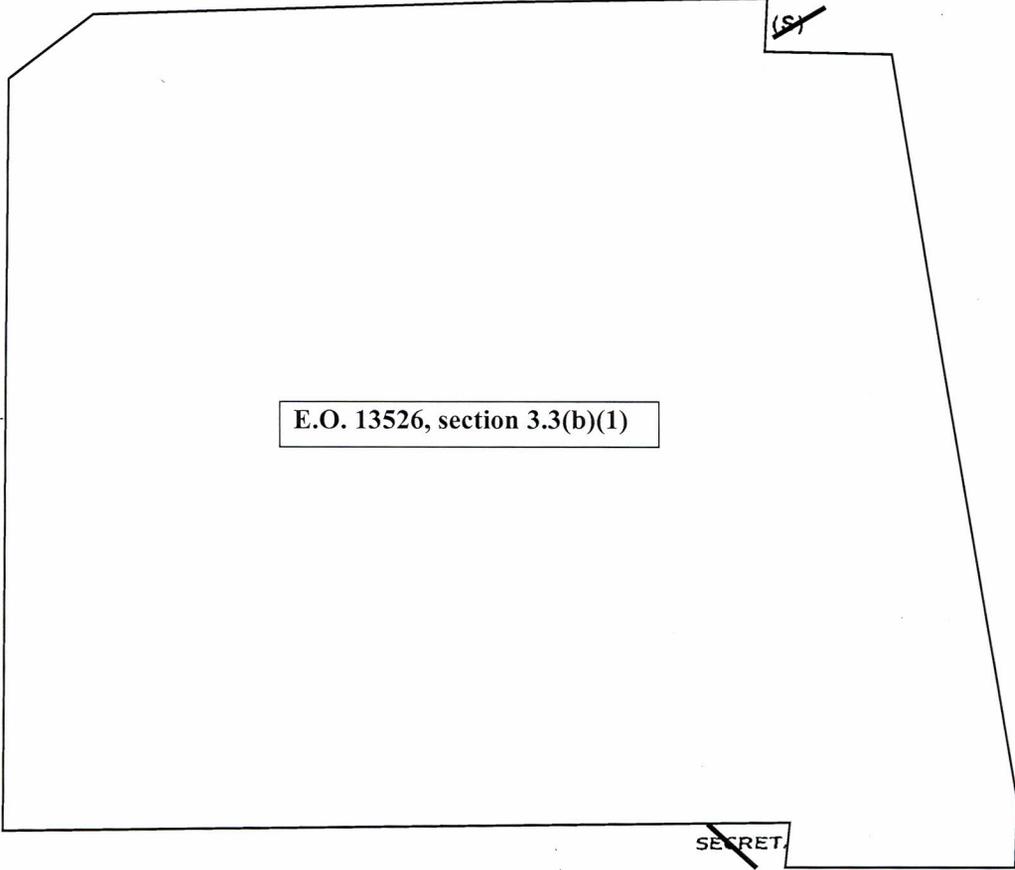
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10 USC § 424

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10 USC § 424

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APPENDIX L



E.O. 13526, section 3.3(b)(1)

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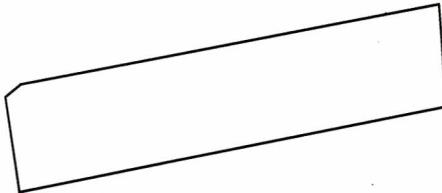
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