



~~SENSITIVE BUT~~
UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNEE SERIAL NUMBER POLICY

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- **Bottom Line Up Front: Internee Serial Numbers (ISNs) are issued to detainees as soon as possible, normally within 14 days of capture.**
- **Issues**
 - Assignment of ISN alerts International Committee of Red Cross of detention, and follow-on access.
 - COCOMs want flexibility to deviate from 14-day assignment timeline for reasons of imperative operational necessity and to maximize intelligence collection efforts; OSD concerned this will lead to loss of accountability and “ghost detainees.”
 - Proposed policy change delegates authority to CENTCOM Commander for approval to assign an ISN beyond 14 days with notification requirements to SecDef. DOD does not intend to approve any requests beyond 30 days.
- **Way Ahead: SecDef has referred the proposed change to the interagency for coordination and approval. There is some disagreement as to legal basis to go beyond 14 days.**