§ 1260.42 What are the procedures for agency personnel to review records at a NARA facility?

(a) NARA will:
(1) Make the records available to properly cleared agency reviewers;
(2) Provide space for agency reviewers in the facility in which the records are located to the extent that space is available; and
(3) Provide training and guidance for agency reviewers on the proper handling of archival materials.

(b) Agency reviewers must:
(1) Follow NARA security regulations and abide by NARA procedures for handling archival materials;
(2) Follow NARA procedures for identifying and marking documents that cannot be declassified; and
(3) Obtain permission from NARA before bringing into a NARA facility computers, scanners, tape recorders, microfilm readers and other equipment necessary to view or copy records. NARA will not allow the use of any equipment that poses an unacceptable risk of damage to archival materials. See 36 CFR part 1254 for more information on acceptable equipment.

§ 1260.44 Will NARA loan accessioned records back to the agencies to conduct declassification review?

In rare cases, when agency reviewers cannot be accommodated at a NARA facility, NARA will consider a request to loan records back to an originating agency in the Washington, DC metropolitan area for declassification review. Each request will be judged on a case-by-case basis. The requesting agency must:

(a) Ensure that the facility in which the documents will be stored and reviewed passes a NARA inspection to ensure that the facility maintains:
(1) The correct archival environment for the storage of permanent records; and
(2) The correct security conditions for the storage and handling of classified national security materials.

(b) Meet NARA requirements for ensuring the safety of the records;

(c) Abide by NARA procedures for handling of archival materials;

(d) Identify and mark documents that cannot be declassified in accordance with NARA procedures; and

(e) Obtain NARA approval for the use of any equipment as described in §1260.42 (b)(3), such as scanners, copiers, or cameras, to ensure that they do not pose an unacceptable risk of damage to archival materials.

§ 1260.46 How will NARA implement automatic declassification?

(a) Textual records and collections. Classified records within an integral file block will be automatically declassified on December 31 of the year that is 25 years from the date of the most recent record within the file block, except as specified in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section.

(b) Special media records—(1) Federal records. Upon proper notification from the originating agency, NARA will delay automatic declassification for 5 additional years for classified information contained in microforms, motion pictures, audiotapes, videotapes, or comparable media that make a review for possible declassification exemptions more difficult or costly. Information contained in special media records that has been referred to an equity holder will be automatically declassified 5 years from the date of notification or 30 years from the date of origination of the special media, whichever is longer, unless otherwise properly exempted.

(2) Presidential collections. NARA will delay automatic declassification for 5 additional years for classified information contained in Presidential records and donated historical materials in the form of microforms, motion pictures, audiotapes, videotapes, or comparable media that make a review for possible declassification exemptions more difficult or costly. Information contained in special media records that has been referred to an equity holder will be automatically declassified 5 years from the date of notification or 30 years from the date of origination of the special media, whichever is longer, unless otherwise properly exempted.

(c) Delayed referrals. NARA will delay automatic declassification for up to 3 years for classified records that have been identified by the originating