**COSMIC Clearance**

COSMIC is a NATO designator, nothing more. And it is information a country is sharing with others. There are over 26 countries in NATO. The United States' closet allies are the ECHELON nations: Canada, UK, New Zealand, Australia. It's much lower in sensitivity than TOP SECRET information which exists within SCI (SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION) channels.   
  
The most closely guarded secrets are contained within SAPS (SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAMS). Some of which are unacknowledged "deep black" operations. This category is unavailable even to the chairs of the Congressional Intelligence Committees. Now if that's not unconstitutional, I don't know what is. I believe this is where official government UFO intelligence resides.   
  
Although, I'm highly skeptical when some witness describes their former security clearance in terms of "levels above top secret". The only way that makes sense is if they're speaking in terms of multiple caveats. The idea of the intelligence system is to segment the information. Nobody has access to the big picture. There are clearances termed "all sources". But that's referring to all of the primary collection categories: PHOTO/ELINT/COMINT/CI-HUMINT   
  
There are at least several hundred maybe thousands of compartments and SAPS. Nobody has carte blanche to everything. If top secret information were to be organized in a hierarchy of levels, someone would obviously have to see everything and make the determination of what is higher in importance than some other area of intelligence.   
  
As someone who worked within the national security apparatus for years, I find it illogical and highly unrealistic a notion. Perhaps, these people are only misinformed. They’re describing their experiences in layman's terms. Not everyone in the military or government interacts with the national security bureaucracy as part of their official duties. The average person working in these highly classified fields probably visits a security office once a year for periodic review and possible polygraph. The level of supervision resides on just how sensitive their work is and the potential consequences of a security compromise.   
  
There is a not so far-fetched conspiracy theory that former CIA director William Colby was assassinated to prevent him from leaking classified information.