

Director's Message & Overview

Welcome to the National Security Agency/Central Security Service. I'm Admiral Mike Rogers, Commander of U.S. Cyber Command, Director of the National Security Agency and Chief of its military components, the Central Security Service.

On behalf of the men and women of NSA/CSS, thank you for your interest in our agency.

This is truly an amazing place to work: our missions are dynamic and so are our adversaries.

The NSA workforce brings together a diverse range of skills and backgrounds to achieve a common goal: to defend our nation and our allies against a wide range of national security issues, from terrorist threats against the homeland to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

We do this important work with an unwavering commitment to uphold the U.S. Constitution, under the oversight of Congress, to ensure our accountability to the citizens of our nation.

Every day our personnel develop and use cutting-edge technologies, translate and interpret scores of information, map and analyze networks and systems, and work side-by-side with customers ranging from our nation's senior decision makers to troops in harm's way around the world.

Working with our partners at USCYBERCOM, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Justice, we also provide assistance in defending our nation's critical infrastructure and national security networks to ensure our enemies do not infringe upon our way of life.

In a moment, you'll see a video presentation about NSA that will give you a better sense of this unique national asset, working on behalf of our citizens.

We hope you will enjoy it and learn from it.

The men and women of NSA are proud to serve, for the good of our nation.

NSA OVERVIEW BEGIN

((SOUND OF SIGNALS))

Hear that? It doesn't sound like much, does it?

But in the hands of an analyst at the National Security Agency, signals like these can become one of the most reliable and timely forms of intelligence available to America's leaders.

Signals Intelligence, or SIGINT, is intelligence derived from signals.

Signals contain information about our adversaries that is vital to our national security.

They can help us determine where our adversaries are located, what they are planning and what kinds of weapons they are using,

America relies on NSA to collect and process foreign signals,

understand them,

and share them with U.S. officials and war fighters

so that they can take action to keep our nation secure.

This is not an easy task.

SIGINT is technically challenging to produce.

It is both an art and a science.

Many of the signals we collect are encrypted.

And usually, they're not in English.

It takes a team of mathematicians, linguists, analysts, and computer scientists, armed with the latest technology, working around the clock, to turn signals like these

((SOUNDS OF SIGNALS))

into useable intelligence.

But the results are worth it.

SIGINT saves lives on the battlefield.

It stops terrorist attacks and disrupts their operations.

It promotes U.S. interests and alliances around the globe.

It counters the proliferation of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons.

And it helps to thwart the flow of illegal narcotics into our country.

Unfortunately, our adversaries also understand the power of Signals Intelligence. As we target their signals, they try to exploit ours.

Hostile foreign nations try to gather information about official U.S. plans, policies, and capabilities by exploiting our communications, information systems, and networks around the clock.

Each day there are more than three million unauthorized probes of U.S. Defense Department computer networks alone, putting our nation at risk.

That's why America also counts on NSA to protect sensitive U.S. government communications and information systems from our adversaries.

Our Information Assurance teams work with U.S. government agencies and our allies to provide them the tools and the knowledge they need to keep their systems secure so that our adversaries are unable to gain access to sensitive U.S. and allied information.

The systems we design allow our leaders to communicate and exchange information securely in real time, anywhere in the world:

from Washington, D.C.,

to the battlefields of Iraq,

and from outer space

to cyberspace.

Information is power.

When we know our adversaries' information and they don't know ours, we have the "information advantage."

And that "Information Advantage" is what the National Security Agency, Central Security Service, gives the American people.