

PROGRAM 5: INTELLIGENCE

OBJECTIVE

To provide intelligence, primarily on strategic and military issues, to Defence and other parts of Government, and to the ADF for the conduct of military operations.

DESCRIPTION

The Intelligence Program collects, assesses and distributes intelligence to inform Australia's strategic, defence and wider government policies, and for the conduct of military operations. The Defence Intelligence Organisation assesses and distributes intelligence on strategic and military developments and is responsible for the provision of intelligence to the ADF for operations. The Defence Signals Directorate collects and distributes foreign signals intelligence and provides advice and services to Defence and other parts of government on computer and communications security. The Program Manager is Deputy Secretary Strategy and Intelligence.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Defence Signals Directorate continued to refine its intelligence product to accommodate key customer requirements. A stronger role was taken in management of its intelligence effort, particularly with the ADF. Reporting and data management mechanisms were enhanced, strategies against major targets were re-evaluated, and the development of capability on newer targets was consolidated.

The Directorate consolidated its increased capability in a number of core areas, enhancing the quality and range of intelligence output. Work practices became more flexible, facilitating quicker response times to customer requirements. Data management capabilities were significantly enhanced through technical upgrades and streamlining data flow. Directorate product has become more accessible to customers through procedural changes.

The Defence Intelligence Organisation continued to develop its expertise in the assessment of military capabilities and it ensured support for the ADF and its planning for various contingencies that emerged. Technical improvements completed during the year have enhanced the organisation's ability to assess and distribute intelligence material in a timely manner.

The Defence Intelligence Organisation improved its customer responsiveness through better management of intelligence processes, simplifying product lines and improving their customer friendliness. The organisation introduced a customer relations strategy as part of fostering an outward-looking, customer-focused culture. This included validation of the organisation's customer base, and making the organisation more accessible to its customers.

The introduction of a new human resource plan within the Defence Intelligence Organisation affirms the development and performance of people at the forefront of the organisation's management priorities.

1997-98 PERFORMANCE AGAINST FORECAST

The extent to which customers receive more relevant, accurate and timely intelligence

Progress has been made in a number of areas within the Defence Signals Directorate to enhance the data management of intelligence material. Technical enhancements have ensured the continuation of collection activities and increased data capacity. Information flow through the organisation has ensured faster response times to customer requirements, particularly in support of the ADF and its activities. These improvements, combined with changes in procedural policy, have greatly improved the Directorate's effectiveness.

The Defence Intelligence Organisation continued to pursue technical and process improvements in order to increase its value in providing quality intelligence assessments to its stakeholders including support for operational planning, defence force development and policy planning. The organisation also continued to refine its customer responsiveness and the quality, timeliness and relevance of its end products.

RESOURCES

Table 5.1: Defence Function Outlay Summary

	1997-98	1997-98	1997-98	Variation	
	Budget	Revised	Actual	(97-98 Actual less	
	Estimate	Estimate	Outcome	Revised Estimate)	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	%
Program Total	137.0	124.4	140.9	16.4	13.2

Table 5.2: Staffing Summary

	1997-98	1997-98	1997-98	Variation	
	Budget	Revised	Actual	(97-98 Actual less	
	Estimate	Estimate	Outcome	Revised Estimate)	
	Personnel Numbers			%	
Program Total	1,491	1,453	1,437	-16	-1.1

1997-98 Defence Reform Program Progress

Intelligence savings resulted from changes to the supply of guarding and cleaning services.

Table 5.3: 1997-98 Defence Reform Program Savings

Category	Personnel Savings		Savings \$m
	ADF	APS	
Intelligence ⁽¹⁾		5	
Total		5	

Note:

1. Savings in 1997-98 were less than \$0.1m.

Table 5.4: 1997-98 Defence Reform Program Reinvestment

<i>Category</i>	<i>\$m</i>
Transition costs related principally to redundancies	0.1