

Australian Signals Directorate

Reveal Their Secrets - Protect Our Own

About ASD

The Australian Signals Directorate (ASD, [formerly DSD](#)) is an intelligence agency in the Australian Government Department of Defence, with its headquarters in Canberra.

Our mission, *'Reveal their secrets, protect our own'*, accurately summarises our role. ASD:

- collects and analyses foreign signals intelligence, known as Sigint
- provides advice and assistance on information and communications security, known as InfoSec.

The overview of our [signals intelligence role](#) briefly describes our signals intelligence work for the Australian Defence Force and Australian Government and why it is secret.

ASD provides [information security advice and services](#) mainly to Australian federal and state government agencies. ASD also works closely with industry to develop and deploy secure cryptographic products.

The [history of ASD](#) begins in the Second World War, when Australian Navy, Army and Air Force personnel were brought together to support General MacArthur's South-West Pacific campaign by intercepting and decoding Japanese radio signals.