We are the nation’s first line of defense. We accomplish what others cannot accomplish and go where others cannot go. We carry out our mission by:

- Collecting information that reveals the plans, intentions, and capabilities of our adversaries and provides the basis for decision and action.
- Producing timely analysis that provides insight, warns of threats, and makes recommendations to policymakers.
- Collecting information that reveals the plans, intentions, and capabilities of our adversaries and provides the basis for decision and action.
- Conducting covert action at the direction of the President to preempt threats or achieve US policy objectives.
- Establishing the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC).

On December 17, 2004, President George W. Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act which restructured the Intelligence Community by abolishing the position of Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence (DDCI) and creating the position of Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (DCIA). The Act also created the position of Director of National Intelligence (DNI), which oversees the Intelligence Community and the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC).

The CIA’s primary mission is to collect, analyze, evaluate, and disseminate foreign intelligence to assist the President and senior US Government policymakers in making decisions relating to national security.

The US Congress has had oversight responsibility of the CIA since the agency was established in 1947. However, prior to the mid-1970’s, oversight was less formal. The 1980 Intelligence Oversight Act charged the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) with authorizing the programs of the intelligence agencies and overseeing their activities.

It is now three days since I have received any intelligence… It is of such importance to me to be regularly informed that I must request you send express daily.

— George Washington

CIA is not a law enforcement organization. CIA and the FBI cooperate on a number of issues, such as counterintelligence and counterterrorism.

The CIA may engage in covert action at the President’s direction and in accordance with applicable law.

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Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

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Or visit our website at:

www.cia.gov

The NCS serves as the clandestine arm of the CIA and the national authority for the coordination, deconfliction, and evaluation of clandestine human intelligence (HUMINT) operations across the Intelligence Community. The NCS is the front-line source of clandestine intelligence on critical international developments ranging from terrorism and weapons proliferation to military and political issues. To gather this important intelligence, CIA operations officers live and work overseas to establish and maintain networks and personal relationships with foreign “agents” in the field. The NCS also manages foreign intelligence relationships and carries out special activities overseas to establish and maintain networks and personal relationships with foreign “agents” in the field. The NCS also manages foreign intelligence relationships and carries out special activities authorized by the President in support of US policy goals.

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The DI analyzes all sources of information to produce timely, accurate, and relevant intelligence that helps the President and others charged with protecting America and advancing US interests make informed decisions. DI analysts use substantive expertise and a variety of means and methods, including reports from spies, satellite photography, open source information, and sophisticated sensors, to overcome fragmentation and bias in our adversaries’ efforts to deceive and deny information. In addition, the DI employs structured analytic approaches to ensure DI analysis is rigorous, clear, free from bias, and explicit about information gaps that could change our analytic judgments.

The DI’s flagship product is a classified daily electronic publication, the World Intelligence Review (WIR). Provided to senior policy and security officials, the WIR updates readers on current developments and identifies trends and developments overseas that have the potential to affect US interests. The DI is also the largest contributor to the President’s Daily Brief (PDB), an Intelligence Community product under the direction of the Director of National Intelligence. The PDB addresses the national security interests of interest to the President and is given only to the President, Vice President, and to those cabinet-level officials the President designates as recipients.

The DI’s analysis supports the President in developing and implementing policies and strategies designed to enhance the nation’s security interests. The DI’s analysis is used to brief senior policy and security officials across the government. DI products are shared with other national security agencies and international partners to improve coordination across the Intelligence Community. The DI performs its mission with a small, highly skilled workforce and enjoys a working relationship with many other organizations in the Intelligence Community using best practices to foster creative thinking and working-level coordination. Officers in the DI continually seek to push the boundaries of the state-of-the-art, refining cutting-edge technologies with effective targeting and tradecraft.

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The DI assumes, collects, and exploits information to facilitate the execution of the CIA’s missions by applying innovative, scientific, engineering, and technical solutions to the most critical intelligence problems. It incorporates best practices from computer programmers and engineers to scientists and analysts. The DS&T partners with many other organizations in the Intelligence Community using best practices to foster creative thinking and working-level coordination. Officers in the DS&T continually seek to push the boundaries of the state-of-the-art, refining cutting-edge technologies with effective targeting and tradecraft.

Overview of CIA’s Organization
The CIA is separated into four basic components. These directorates carry out the intelligence cycle—the process of collecting, analyzing, and disseminating intelligence information to top US Government officials.