

Technical Capability

24. Improve Mission Management to ensure efficient use of our Sigint resources. The UK hubs/Access Services will continue to simplify and improve performance by ensuring a better awareness of priorities and preventing duplication of cover via more effective coordination of Comsat/TRF assets for both UK and NSA intelligence collection.
25. To maximise Cyprus's role within the GCHQ extended enterprise, address the scope for standardisation of IT to facilitate interaction (in particular with Bude and Scarborough, but also to include Cheltenham, Digby, LECKWITH and MHS) to encompass information sharing, loadsharing, data exchange and other forms of communication.
26. Where appropriate utilise system monitoring tools to check status of on-island collection and forwarding systems. Identify gaps in monitoring capabilities and feed back to tool developers so that system health checks become reliable and sustainable.
27. Sustain our capability relative to our unique environment, promoting integration and fusion across COMSAT, TRF, Weapons and MASINT maximising the benefit of the new Operations Building.
28. The full range of common GCHQ tools are available, complementing those of NSA. Centrally coordinated SD, greater target and environmental knowledge will contribute to enhanced Operations support. Greater access to NSANet for both personal accounts and VTCs.
29. Sustain our capability to assist, develop and/or pull through as necessary initiatives such as One IP Convergence, Ka Band development, Survey/Auto Survey capability (particularly DARKQUEST, IVE/FORESIGHT), Burst TDMA SHARKQUEST/BASSQUEST development, Apparition and New Generation Wideband Glaive.

Partnerships

30. We continue to sustain and strengthen our partnership with the US/NSA and with other 5-Eyes agencies. GCHQ's Cyprus collection facilities are acknowledged by NSA as important assets that make a major contribution to UKUSA. Under the ECHELON Agreement, NSA provides 50% of the funding for the SOUNDER Comsat facility. The expertise of forward deployed staff on Cyprus, the implementation of the SHARED VISION and GLAIVE common architectures, and the evolving emphasis upon improved SD/Franchise services will guarantee a continued positive relationship, with potentially greater opportunities for interoperability and sharing. Weapons and SPACOL collection provides important data for both UKUSA operational technical Sigint and longer term analysis work. The Cyprus Stakeholders'

TOP SECRET STRAP1

Conference will continue to be an important forum for resolving issues and strengthening relationships.

31. Cyprus will continue to support on island initiatives with other Government Agencies where these support joint working aims with clear intelligence benefits.

Enablers and Governance

32. Maximise investment in Sigint/Cyber capability and reduce total cost of ownership. This will continue to be achieved by remoting and concentrating collection management functions at Bude and Scarborough, standardising sustained collection architecture and infrastructure, and maintaining common working practices and skills development processes across the wider communities. Uniform skills and technology will continue to contribute towards lower support costs and greater efficiency (e.g. reducing training overheads for staff moving between locations).
33. Maintain data acquisition as priorities and environments change. This will be achieved by implementing centralised collection supported by more focused SD at the front end.
34. Improve integration with military planning and operations. The symbiotic relationship between GCHQ and MOD on Cyprus requires close interaction to ensure decisions are made in the interests of both partners. The agreement on Sigint Facilities in Cyprus forms the basis of GCHQ's expectations for MOD cooperation. Requirements from either party to meet efficiency targets will be carried forward in consultation with the other partner.

CONTEXT/BACKGROUND

Current State

35. Cyprus hosts a wide range of UK and US intelligence facilities:
36. Comint (Comsat, HF) and Masint collection/SD at Ayios Nikolaos in the Eastern Sovereign Base Area (SBA);
37. Masint transmission currently at Akrotiri, with an unmanned facility also at Cape Gata (both in the Western SBA); and
38. Golf Troop Comint (V/UHF) and Elint/SPACOL/FIS/Proforma collection and SD at Troodos, a Retained Site.
39. Comint collection benefits several strands of reporting, especially ITT, PME, Europe, Counter Proliferation and Serious Crime. Weapons-related collection from Troodos is used to support technical Sigint analysts in the UK and US.

TOP SECRET STRAP1