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Australian Government
Department of Defence
Defence Intelligence Group

Chief of Defence Intelligence
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Minute

CDI/2022/OUT/BM41547363

**DEFENCE'S OFFICIAL OVERVIEW: THE PARLIAMENTARY JOINT
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY'S ADMINISTRATION AND
EXPENDITURE REVIEW NO. 20**

1. The Chief of Defence Intelligence, LTGEN Gavan Reynolds, is the head of the Defence Intelligence Group and the Director of the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO). The Chief of Defence Intelligence also has responsibility for the Australian Geospatial-Intelligence Organisation (AGO) as part of the Defence Intelligence Group.
2. AGO is the Government's lead organisation for the provision of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) in support of Defence and national security requirements.
3. Over the 2020-21 reporting period, AGO continued to produce GEOINT to support a broad and diverse range of intelligence and Defence functions for Government. AGO's GEOINT continued to underpin informed decision-making, as well as the delivery of critical missions, including support to the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and Australian Hydrographic Office safety at sea activities.
4. DIO is Defence's strategic all-source intelligence assessment agency. DIO's role is to provide independent, well-judged, clear and timely insights into defence and security-related matters that may affect Australia's national interests.
5. Over the 2020-21 reporting period, DIO provided assessments on both established and new intelligence priorities to support Defence and Whole-of-Government. DIO's assessments contributed to strategic warning; informed defence policy development; support to the planning and conduct of defence operations; guidance to defence capability; and support to Government planning and decision-making.
6. Due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout this reporting period, AGO and DIO continued to activate business continuity plans. This enabled the agencies to meet social distancing measures and travel restrictions; ensure staff wellbeing; and maintain critical intelligence support to the ADF and Whole-of-Government. In early 2021, AGO and DIO implemented a COVID-safe "business as usual".
7. On 1 January 2021, the Defence Intelligence Group reached full operating capability. In-line with recommendations from the Defence Intelligence Enterprise Review, the establishment of the group integrated intelligence, and intelligence-related policy and capability functions from across Defence to better position the Defence intelligence enterprise to provide enhanced support to Defence – including ADF operations, activities and actions – and national intelligence requirements.

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8. Over 2020-21, Defence continued to support the National Intelligence Community framework. This was through close integration on areas of focus, as well as through close partnership with the enterprise lead, the Office of National Intelligence.



Gavan Reynolds, AM
Lieutenant General
Chief of Defence Intelligence

14 January 2022