

officials throughout the policy and Intelligence Community told the Joint Inquiry that [page 393] Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) was a valuable source of information on al-Qa'ida. Exploitation of terrorist communications, however, was uneven at best and suffered from insufficient investment. Al-Qa'ida was only one of several high priority targets and a difficult one].

A. NSA's Organizational Structure for Collecting Terrorist Communications

Within the NSA, the Signals Directorate, which was created in February 2001 by combining the Operations and Technology Directorates, has the primary SIGINT mission. Within the Signals Directorate, the Counterterrorism Product Line has the lead for counterterrorism reporting. [_____

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- [_____];
- [_____];
- [_____
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- [_____];
- [_____].

B. SIGINT and the September 11 Attacks

Prior to 11 September 2001, NSA had no specific information indicating the date, time, place, or participants in an attack on the United States. Numerous NSA personnel, including