

NEWS RELEASE
PLEASE NOTE DATE



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Washington 25, D.C.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 2, 1961

NO. 777-61
Oxford 53201

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ANNOUNCES
NEW DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell L. Gilpatric today announced the establishment of a new military intelligence organization, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). This new Defense Agency will report through the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Secretary of Defense and will combine a number of intelligence functions heretofore carried out independently by the separate military departments. Consolidation of certain intelligence functions under the Joint Chiefs of Staff is in full consonance with the concepts embodied in the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and particularly the provisions of the Defense Reorganization Act of 1958.

Mr. Gilpatric emphasized that this significant change in the organization and management of Defense intelligence functions has been made with the approval of President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Mr. Gilpatric characterized the principal objectives in establishing the DIA as obtaining greater unity of effort among all components of the Department of Defense in developing military intelligence and as strengthening the overall capacity of the Department for collection, production and dissemination of Defense intelligence information.

Mr. Gilpatric also stated that Secretary of Defense McNamara and he expected that this new Defense Agency would result in more efficient allocation of critical intelligence resources, more effective management of all Department of Defense intelligence activities, and the elimination of duplicating facilities, organizations and tasks.

The establishment of the Defense Intelligence Agency was based primarily on a concept and plan developed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the request of Secretary McNamara. It represents the culmination of intensive studies on Defense intelligence activities conducted by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other components of the DoD over the last six months.

Mr. Gilpatric said that the new Defense Intelligence Agency will follow a carefully planned, time-phased schedule of implementation, and that it would take a period of time to become fully operational. He emphasized that the implementation schedule will be carefully arranged so that there will be no disruption of vital DoD intelligence activities or capabilities during the activation period.

It is anticipated that the Director of the new agency will be a three star general or flag officer on active duty. His term of office will be for four years and his appointment will be announced shortly.

E N D