



(U) A 'Golden' TDY

FROM: [REDACTED]
PAC's Focused Target Development (S2G31)
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An analyst jumps into CSG work with both feet (in more ways than one!) (U)

(S//SI) After being at NSA for over two years, I volunteered for a TDY to the Cryptologic Services Group (CSG) at Central Command (CENTCOM) in Tampa. It turned out to be one of the best experiences I've had while working at NSA.

(S//SI) I was selected to work Counterterrorism (CT) and the Al-Qa'ida Senior Leadership (AQL) mission in the Afghanistan/Pakistan border area. I also worked with forward-deployed CT and CSG analysts on high value targets (HVT's) in Iraq. One such HVT was former regime member Sabawi Ibrihim Al-Tikriti. Through call-chaining techniques, analysts were able to recover previously unknown contacts, allowing NSA's Iraq shop to task and develop multiple new numbers. The ensuing reports provided new information on Sabawi for the command.

(S//SI) Targets in Iraq and Afghanistan/Pakistan were tracked using call-chaining and network-diagramming techniques with such tools as Banyan, Mainway, Association, Cultweave and Arcview. The CSG performed daily Arcview pulls on AQL communications in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region to determine which HVT's were currently active, whom they communicated with, and where they were located. Through coordination with NSA target offices, locations of senior Taleban HVT's were discovered. This was put together with imagery from CENTCOM NGA* analysts to create target packages for analysts forward deployed.

(S//SI) All-source analysis was also an integral part of tracking the targets. Using Intelink, analysts accessed community-wide reporting including CIA HUMINT reports, DIA reports and highly-valued NSA SIGINT products. Sitting within CENTCOM spaces, I was able to regularly apply these NSA products to the big picture, resulting in a fused intelligence representation. This all-source effort has been credited with the capture of multiple Taleban and AQL supporters in the Afghan/Pakistan border area.

(U//FOUO) On a lighter note, through networking with a few CT analysts, I was given a great opportunity to skydive with the U.S. Army Golden Knights. The Golden Knights are an elite parachute team that travels around the world demonstrating their talent and expertise in competitions. This was my first time parachuting and I went tandem with a soldier who has jumped with President George H.W. Bush and Chuck Norris.



(U//FOUO) I definitely recommend a TDY to CENTCOM to anyone who is interested in working in a fast-paced environment and who wants to directly impact the mission overseas.

*(U) Note:
NGA = National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

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