



(U//FOUO) SID Sets Goal: To Raise Awareness of Adversarial D&D

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(S//SI) An awareness of adversarial use of Denial and Deception (D&D) has always been a critical part of the intelligence analysis process. As the Performance and Accountability Report reminded us, " *the Indian nuclear tests of May 1998 [which took the intelligence community by surprise] are evidence of just how vulnerable the SIGINT system is to foreign D&D.* " Today, it may be more critical than ever before that SIGINTers worldwide maintain an awareness of D&D tactics and techniques - and SID has set objectives to make this happen.

(S//SI) What is D&D, and how does it impact our analysis and collection capabilities? **Denial** takes on many forms: it can occur when targets encrypt, compartmentalize, and/or conceal their information, whereabouts, and facilities. **Deception** is when targets deliberately falsify information to mislead us. When we collect and analyze our information, we must exercise healthy skepticism and avoid accepting the information at face value.

(U//FOUO) In recognition of the importance of D&D awareness, SID leadership recently amended the [United States SIGINT System Strategic Missions Directive](#) to include a "countering D&D" objective. The new objective is included under its second goal, "Optimize SIGINT Capabilities for Mission Success," and reads:

- *Elevate awareness of adversarial denial and deception tactics and techniques in order to identify and counter such efforts and, thereby, optimize SIGINT performance.*

(U//FOUO) Additional goals are included in the most recent [NSA/CSS Performance and Accountability Report](#). They call for the use of quantifiable measures to optimize SIGINT D&D performance. (See the PAR's "National Foreign Intelligence Program Performance Goals" section, page 68.)

(U//FOUO) Watch for future articles on D&D. In the meantime, see the Intelligence Security Issues (S02L3) organization's [Denial and Deception webpage](#) for further info.

(U) See also the earlier SID *today* article: [A Horse Is a Horse, Of Course, Of Course](#) .

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