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(U) Virtual Teaming Pays Off

FROM: [redacted]
NSA Georgia, Middle East/North Africa shop (FGS2E3)
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(U//FOUO) SIDtoday Editor's comment: The below article is reprinted from NSA Georgia's "Around NSAG" newsletter (12-25 October edition):

(TS//SI//REL) On 7 July 2008, analysts and linguists at NSAG and the Joint Service Signal Unit (JSSU) Digby [in the UK] stood up a virtual team to enhance both organizations' efforts against the Lebanese military and Palestinian security forces targets. If (or when) the situation in either Lebanon or the Palestinian territories deteriorates into crisis, the new collaborative team is poised to ramp up to 24-hour-per-day real-time coverage.

(TS//SI//REL) The concept for the idea was suggested by [redacted] a British Army Second Party integree stationed at NSAG, when he learned of looming manning shortages for the U.S. team. The suggestion was quickly accepted by both sites, and four linguists deployed to NSAG for dialect classes and on-the-job training with experienced operators. Within 4 months, the British linguists returned to JSSU-Digby to stand up their operation.

(TS//SI//REL) The two halves of the team work closely to coordinate on collection issues, transcription, and reporting of activity. This virtual team arrangement has already produced three reports that were briefed to national-level policy makers and theater-level commanders.

NSAG team

(U//FOUO) Above: NSAG Virtual Team members. Front row, [redacted].

Members not pictured: [redacted]

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(U//FOUO) JSSU Digby Virtual Team members (l-r): [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] [redacted] *and* [redacted]

(U//FOUO) Have comments on the topic of virtual teaming? Post them on the SID*today* Blog.

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