Dr Cathy Day - Defence Service

In 2001 she was the Senior Civilian Monitor of the Peace Monitoring Group in South Bougainville [http://dfat.gov.au/geo/papua-new-guinea/Pages/bougainville-peace-process.aspx%5D] She led a small team of civilian monitors as part of the multi-national Peace Monitoring Group, based in Siwai District, Bougainville. Her duties included directing the work of the civilian monitors in South Bougainville, as well as fulfilling the mandate of the PMG with respect to Siwai District. This involved liaising with key leaders in the District, facilitating activities related to the peace process, disseminating information regarding the peace process and weapons disposal, negotiating the lifting of roadblocks and investigating murders. She was highly successful in her mission, which she attributed to applying a basic anthropological principle of understanding the culture in which one is working.

Cathy was the Director of the Military Sigint Operations Centre in the Defence Signals Directorate in Canberra, where she had responsibility for almost 300 staff operating in a 24-hour environment. The MSOC supported military operations of the Australian Defence Force and allied organisations by providing timely and accurate signals intelligence to national customers and deployed forces

From 1996 to 1999 Cathy was Mission Director at the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap, Alice Springs, where she was responsible during the course of her shift for all operational activities of this significant intelligence facility. Prior to going to Alice Springs, Cathy was a manager and policy advisor in several sections within the Defence Signals Directorate, now renamed the Australian Signals Directorate [http://www.asd.gov.au].

Cathy joined the Australian Regular Army as an officer in the Directorate of Military Intelligence in Canberra, after having served in the Australian Army Reserve for a number of years.