

# NSA Spying Row: Denmark Accused of Helping US Spy on European Officials

By [BBC](#)

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*Denmark’s secret service helped the US spy on European politicians including German **Chancellor Angela Merkel** from 2012 to 2014, Danish media say.*

The Defence Intelligence Service (FE) collaborated with the US National Security Agency (NSA) to gather information, according to Danish public service broadcaster DR.

Intelligence was allegedly collected on other officials from Germany, France, Sweden and Norway.

Similar allegations emerged in 2013.

Then, secrets leaked by US whistleblower **Edward Snowden** alleged tapping of the German chancellor’s phone by the NSA.

When those allegations were made, the White House gave no outright denial but said Mrs Merkel’s phone was not being bugged at the time and would not be in future.

Germany is a close ally of the US.

German **President Frank-Walter Steinmeier** and a spokesperson for Angela Merkel have said they were not aware of Danish involvement until the DR report, which was shared with other European media over the weekend.

[The NSA is said to have accessed text messages and the phone conversations](#) of a number of prominent individuals by tapping into Danish internet cables in co-operation with the FE.

The alleged set-up, said in the report to have been codenamed “Operation Dunhammer”,

allowed the NSA to obtain data using the telephone numbers of politicians as search parameters, according to DR.

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