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STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

**HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE –
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS**

HEARING ON “FY22 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE POSTURE”

JUNE 11, 2021

Introduction

Chairman Gallego, Ranking Member Kelly, and distinguished members of the committee: thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the President’s budget request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. On behalf of the intelligence professionals of the Department of Defense, let me also thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work to address the threats facing the United States of America today and prepare for the challenges of tomorrow.

(U) The President’s \$715 billion defense budget request for FY 2022 includes \$23.3 billion for the Military Intelligence Program (MIP). The MIP reflects the guidance of the Secretary of Defense for defense intelligence. The MIP is developed in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence to ensure optimal alignment between defense and national priorities while avoiding unintentional duplication. The FY 2022 MIP provides the necessary intelligence capabilities to support the Department’s three key priorities: defending the nation, taking care of our people, and succeeding through teamwork.

Environment

The United States faces a period of rapid, profound, and dynamic change in the international landscape. The expansion of the competitive space beyond traditional military domains and geographic boundaries increases and complicates demands for defense intelligence collection, analysis, and planning. Challenges from strategic competitors, rogue states, and violent extremists require investing in our ability to seamlessly share and fuse information, synchronize capabilities, and expand partnerships with other government agencies, the private sector, academia, and partner nations to better integrate their capabilities, data, and insights.

Military Intelligence Program

The FY 2022 MIP budget request focuses defense intelligence efforts on prioritizing the following: the pacing challenge of the People’s Republic of China (PRC); advanced and persistent threats from Russia, North Korea, and Iran; understanding and harnessing rapid technological advancements; and countering adversarial non-state actors. Although we have established a strong foundation to strengthen our national defense, the Department risks losing its competitive advantage to our rivals and adversaries without the much needed, continued investments in critical areas, including our intelligence and security portfolio.

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The MIP provides resources for vital cryptologic capabilities to increase the ability of the Defense Intelligence Enterprise to deliver accurate and timely intelligence to the Combatant Commands and deployed forces. Specifically, the National Security Agency (NSA) will use such resources to focus on:

- Delivering comprehensive intelligence support to enable DoD cyberspace advantage against our hardest targets;
- Providing technical engagement of Service capabilities to ensure a strategic advantage over near-peer adversaries; and
- Supporting deployed warfighters and the Combatant Commands by providing critical intelligence in contested environments.

NSA's access operations and collection capabilities continue to evolve in response to the threat landscape and telecommunications complexity encountered in the strategic environment. Consistent with the Secretary's priorities and the Interim National Security Strategic Guidance, near-peer competitors, specifically the PRC and Russia, are the principal priorities for the Department. The global communications network in which our competitors operate is increasingly more dynamic, dispersed, and characterized with strong, readily available, and well-implemented cryptography.

An NSA-led re-investment in the ability to exploit signals associated with advanced weapons and space systems will improve warfighter weapons and space readiness. This initiative will enable real-time threat data dissemination through the development of automated processes and streaming of the intelligence mission data. Developing new tradecraft, modernizing training, and increasing retention of a skilled workforce will provide the foundation necessary to counter foreign adversary weapon and space systems.

The Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA's) budget request provides warfighters and policymakers a decision advantage through the integration of highly skilled professionals with leading edge technology to discover information, create knowledge, provide warning, and identify opportunities to our warfighters, defense planners, and national security policymakers.

MIP funding will also be used by DIA to build resilience and readiness and focus on innovation and modernization. It will strategically rebalance personnel and resources to invest in emerging requirement areas and continue to build the ability to harness and master information at the speed and scale that is crucial in developing and delivering intelligence for decision advantage. Specifically, the DIA will use such resources to focus on:

- Continuing to modernize foundational military intelligence and accelerate intelligence processing and analysis with the Machine-assisted Analytic Rapid-repository System (MARS). MARS will transform the current databases for foundational military intelligence into an advanced, comprehensive, scalable, flexible, and rigorous intelligence environment for the next century.
- Centralizing and enhancing Joint Worldwide Intelligence Communications System (JWICS) functionality by leveraging resources of the Defense Information Systems

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Agency to effectively improve the JWICS program through redundancy, resiliency, security, and routing optimization.

Last year, the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) delivered twelve payloads to orbit, including several “first ever” capabilities. In FY 2022, the NRO will continue its 60-year history of building and operating overhead reconnaissance space and ground systems, and providing platforms for critical collections from space for geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) and signals intelligence (SIGINT). As space becomes increasingly congested and contested, the NRO is continuing to build new capabilities to deliver greater resiliency for systems on orbit to systems on the ground, maturing partnerships with the Space Force and taking advantage of innovations and efficiencies in the commercial space industry to help stay ahead of our adversaries & deliver new capabilities to policymakers and warfighters.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) serves as the nation’s primary provider of geospatial-intelligence, or GEOINT, which is the use of imagery and geospatial information to describe and depict features, activities, and locations on and about the Earth. Faced with a new era of strategic competition, NGA’s FY22 investments are centered around its commitment to deliver trusted GEOINT with the speed, accuracy and precision required to hold at risk the strategic forces our adversaries use to project power and threaten the United States and our Allies.

Finally, we continue to address our adversaries’ wide spread use of disinformation for malign influence through a “whole of government” approach. Although classification of information is an essential tool to protect intelligence sources and methods, advancement of U.S. interests through our broad alliances and partnerships may require wider dissemination of classified information. U.S. interests may also be served by release to the public of certain unclassified information.

The MIP budget request enables the Department to address threats from the tactical to the strategic level. The international security environment is characterized by rapid, profound, and dynamic change; a decline in the long-standing international order; and the erosion of military advantage in key regions. Strategic competitors, rogue states, and non-state actors are aggressively employing various means to challenge the international order, institutions, and alliances that fundamentally underpin U.S. security and global stability.

Security

In addition to meeting the Department’s intelligence needs, improving security is a critical capability to protect DoD personal, installations, technologies, and information from threats posed by trusted insiders, violent extremists both foreign and domestic, foreign intelligence services, transnational criminal organizations, and other hostile actors seeking to erode our nation’s military advantage.

The Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DSCA) leads our contribution to the security effort. DSCA provides personal vetting, insider threat support, and critical technology

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protection capabilities by leveraging counterintelligence, modernized information technology and nationally recognized training, education, and certification, in support of over 100 federal entities and more than 12,000 cleared facilities.

The President's FY 2022 budget funds security initiatives to strengthen DoD personnel vetting, counter foreign adversary efforts targeting our critical technologies and supply chains, and address insider threats.

Taking Care of Our People

Most important to our continued intelligence advantage will be building and retaining a defense intelligence workforce that is capable of meeting the new challenges of the 21st century. It must have the digital literacy and advanced skills needed to harness emerging technologies and adapt to ever-shifting threat environments. It must be a workforce that is free from sexual harassment and intolerant of violent extremism in the ranks at any level. And it must be a workforce that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive, and that reflects the nation it serves.

Succeeding through Teamwork

The partnership between the Department of Defense and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence has never been more important to meet the challenges before us. The Military Intelligence Program and National Intelligence Program collectively represent the resources required to deliver the intelligence readiness, resources, technologies, and solutions essential for protecting and ensuring U.S. national security. Intelligence Community partnerships support efforts across the government and are strengthened by our allies and partners, providing different perspectives and capabilities to meet our nation's intelligence and security needs.

Way-Ahead

The Defense Intelligence and Defense Security Enterprises will continue to pivot toward strategic competition, improve adaptability, and address the changing intelligence needs of the Department. We will continue our investment in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning as well as Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance resiliency, while creating efficiencies and improvements in tasking, collections, processing, exploitation, and dissemination capabilities. Finally, we will remain vigilant stewards of defense resources ensuring they advance Departmental goals to remain a credible deterrent to conflict around the world and to protect the nation.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to present the FY 2022 budget, and we are grateful for your support to provide the intelligence and security capabilities that the Department of Defense depends on to defend the United States. All who stand in defense of our nation deserve an unmatched intelligence advantage to limit risk to the force and the Nation, and achieve victory in any domain, now and in the future.

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