

## Opening Statement (As Prepared) Chairman Ruben Gallego

Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations Hearing:

"Defense Intelligence Posture to Support the Warfighters and Policy Makers"

March 17, 2022

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Good afternoon. I call to order this hearing of the Intelligence and Special Operations Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee. I would like to welcome today's witnesses:

- Mr. Ronald Moultrie, Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security
- General Paul Nakasone, Director of the National Security Agency, Chief of the Central Security Service, & Commander of U.S. Cyber Command AND
- Lieutenant General Scott Berrier, Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

I am pleased to see each of you today. This hearing takes place during a perilous time. Russia's invasion of Ukraine shows just how crucial it is to maintain strong democratic alliances and partnerships. It also reinforces the importance of the work being done by the defense intelligence enterprise – from exposing Russia's destructive disinformation to working with our allies and partners to share critical intelligence; and ensuring our intelligence apparatus is agile so that we can respond to the needs of each combatant commander.

Russia's unprovoked assault on Ukraine's sovereignty threatens the world order and represents a dangerous level of aggression. As the situation in Europe unfolds, I am also concerned about China's threatening posture toward Taiwan; the threats we face from Iran and its proxies; and North Korea's persistent testing of ballistic missiles. We also continue to face threats from extremist groups who would, given the opportunity, strike us on our homeland.

We can only effectively combat these challenges with close collaboration with allies and partners, especially through our intelligence partnerships. I am interested in hearing today how the Defense Intelligence Enterprise is implementing reforms that this subcommittee included in the FY22 NDAA to ensure we are better postured to quickly provide releasable intelligence to combatant commanders to combat malign disinformation and support DOD messaging and influence operations.

As social media and big data analytics revolutionize open-source intelligence (or OSINT),

we must ensure the Defense Intelligence Agency, as the functional manager for OSINT, is synchronizing efforts across DOD open-source components and ensuring agencies are coordinating effectively. I want to hear about the extent to which the enterprise is sharing development costs and data ownership and access rights.

In the interest of time, I ask the witnesses to keep their opening remarks brief so that we will have more time for the closed session.

With that, let me again thank our witnesses for appearing before us today. I now recognize Ranking Member Kelly for any opening remarks.

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