

**Ranking Member Crow Remarks**  
HASC ISO Subcommittee Hearing  
Defense Intelligence Enterprise Posture Hearing  
April 16, 2026 at 3:00pm  
2212 Rayburn HOB

Thank you Dr. Jackson, and thank you to our Defense Intelligence leaders for being here today to provide testimony.

Today's hearing is about whether our defense intelligence enterprise is resourced appropriately, postured effectively, and operating as a cohesive unit.

We ask a great deal of our intelligence professionals. They are expected to anticipate adversary actions across all domains while integrating vast streams of data into clear, decision-ready insights.

That mission is only getting harder. Adversaries are more agile, more networked, and more willing to exploit any vulnerabilities in our own system.

The global security environment is testing our defense, security, and intelligence apparatus in unprecedented ways, with challenges ranging from cyber threats, to the proliferation of nuclear weapons and delivery systems, to force protection and an active conflict in the Middle East.

Intelligence is our first line of defense against these and many other threats. It supports our operations, prevents strategic surprise, and ensures the safety of our service members.

The need for an agile, capable, and synchronized Defense Intelligence Enterprise, and one that works closely with allies and partners, cannot be overstated.

The ongoing war with Iran has made that abundantly clear, and I have made my position on the war equally clear, but what matters for the purposes of this hearing is our shared commitment to protecting this country and our service members.

Keeping everyone safe will require that we stay integrated and synchronized across all battlefield functions, including and especially our intelligence functions.

Understanding how this conflict enriches, emboldens, and strengthens alliances between other malign actors like China and Russia is also critical to ensuring our security at home and abroad.

These countries will continue to adapt their strategies to counter U.S. influence in real time, and we cannot afford to let them take advantage of this volatile security environment.

That is why I must again stress the importance of our alliances. Our ability to collaborate with global partners, including sharing relevant intelligence across agencies and enterprises, is part of what makes us better and stronger than our adversaries.

Make no mistake, these are turbulent times that demand serious people.

We built a system with deep expertise across multiple agencies and commands. That specialization is a strength. But it can also become a weakness if -

- those entities are not fully aligned;
- information is not shared in real time;
- priorities are not coordinated; and
- if resources are not allocated with a unified strategy in mind.

So today, I want to better understand three core issues.

First, resourcing. Are our defense intelligence agencies funded and staffed to meet the demands of the current threat environment? Are there critical gaps in analytic capability, collection capacity, or emerging technology investments that this committee needs to address?

Second, posture. How are you positioning your organizations to respond to the most pressing challenges we face today? Are we structured to compete effectively in a world where threats are increasingly transregional and cross-domain? And are we agile enough to adapt as those threats evolve?

And third, integration. Perhaps most importantly, how well are you working together? Are there barriers - cultural, bureaucratic, legal, or technical - that still prevent seamless collaboration across agencies and with our partners and allies? What steps are you taking to break down silos, and where do you need additional authorities or support to do so?

Because the reality is this: our adversaries are not organized the way we are. They are not constrained by the same divisions between agencies or missions. They are coordinated, opportunistic, and focused on exploiting

gaps. If our intelligence enterprise is not fully synchronized, those gaps become vulnerabilities.

We owe it to the men and women on the front lines, and to the American people, to ensure that our intelligence system is as integrated and effective as possible. That means making hard choices about priorities, modernizing how we share and analyze information, and ensuring that every part of the enterprise is pulling in the same direction.

I remain committed to working with you all to ensure your organizations have the resourcing and authorities required to conduct what the nation asks of you. I look forward to hearing from the witnesses on these and others issues today.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.