

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD OF
THE HONORABLE ROBERT O. WORK
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
BEFORE THE
HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
17 NOVEMBER 2016

Chairman Nunes, Ranking Member Schiff, distinguished members of the committee, it is an honor to appear before you today to discuss the support the Department of Defense has received from the Intelligence Community. The unclassified nature of this statement precludes me from discussing in detail many aspects of intelligence and integration support.

It's great to be here with Director of National Intelligence Jim Clapper. There is nobody more qualified than Jim to discuss this topic. Jim played a crucial role in shaping what USDI looks like today. As Jim gets ready to hang up his intelligence spurs, I want to say that Secretary Carter and I are exceedingly grateful for his tremendous contributions to intelligence. He knows, better than anyone, the value that DoD's eight members of the IC bring to the intelligence arena.

It's also a privilege to be here with Marcel Lettre today. Not only is he the primary intelligence advisor to the Secretary and me, he is also responsible to Jim in the role of Director for Defense Intelligence. This dual-hat role was established and institutionalized when Jim was the USDI, and has been highly successful ever since. I cannot overstate the importance of having a USDI team who understands the warfighters' intelligence requirements while also being aware of the capabilities of and demands placed on the national intelligence community. I know Jim will be the first to say that he has a tremendous working relationship with Marcel, one that is well recognized and appreciated across the entire IC. Additionally, this collaboration and coordination between the DNI, IC, and DoD ensures maximum transparency when determining how to apply our financial resources – both the NIP and the MIP – to ever-growing global intelligence requirements.

We all understand and appreciate the importance of personal relationships in this business. Thanks to Jim, current USDI Marcel Lettre, CIA Director John Brennan, and the Directors of the Combat Support Agencies, the relationships between the DNI, CIA, the rest of

the Intelligence Community, and DoD have never been better. From my perspective, I have had the opportunity over the past two-and-a-half years to work closely with Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence (PDDNI) Stephanie O’Sullivan as she is one of three members – along with Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Paul Selva – of the Advanced Capability and Deterrence Panel (ACDP) which is looking at the challenges we face from peer competitors and regional challengers and how we can strengthen our nation’s conventional deterrence.

These relationships, and the resulting cooperation, are crucial as we seek to allocate our precious intelligence resources. As all of you know, we face many complex challenges around the world, from fighting ISIL and other extremist groups, monitoring North Korea’s very active ballistic missile and nuclear weapons development, ensuring Iran does not develop further nuclear capability, keeping a watchful eye on Russia’s actions in Ukraine, Eastern Europe, and elsewhere, and scrutinizing China’s activities in the South and East China Sea. All of these demand the best possible intelligence delivered in a timely manner. And all these demands compete for relatively scarce intelligence resources. So collaboration and cooperation is crucial to understanding how we best allocate intelligence resources – both from DoD and the IC – against our nation’s and the combatant command’s most pressing intelligence requirements.

The USDI and DNI rely on several joint forums where the military Services intelligence chiefs, the intelligence Combat Support Agencies (CSA’s), CIA, and the DNI convene to address key intelligence challenges and potential solutions. USDI military and civilian personnel stay closely connected to the Services and combatant commands. Just a few examples include monthly VTCs; regular visits to every regional and functional combatant command; and

participation in Afghanistan and C-ISIL Warfighter Senior Integration Groups (W-SIG), to address the warfighters' most urgent operational needs through rapid fielding of ISR capabilities.

I also want to highlight that all 10 combatant commands have IC representatives assigned to their headquarters, who serve important roles in representing the capabilities that the IC can bring to bear on behalf of the warfighter while also ensuring that the warfighters' needs are effectively communicated to the IC. At the same time, during combat operations each of the Combat Support Agencies and the CIA substantially boost their presence forward to support ongoing ops. A robust presence remains even today in Afghanistan, while the forward presence supporting Operation INHERENT RESOLVE (OIR) continues to expand.

We face a tough balancing act with the insatiable demands for ISR and intelligence worldwide, especially in a zero-sum budget environment, and we will certainly continue to be challenged to meet 21st century security threats that are global and complex. Yet between the DNI and USDI, we will always listen to and, to the maximum extent possible, accommodate the warfighters' needs.

I am grateful for the committee's interest in this area, and I look forward to your questions.

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