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By KempR on Apr 09, 2026
Department of War
DEFENSE OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

Testimony of
Lt. Gen Michele H. Bredenkamp
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before the
House Armed Services Committee
Subcommittee on Intelligence and
Special Operations
Hearing on
Defense Intelligence Enterprise Posture

Thursday, 16 April, 2026



NGA
NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



Chairman Jackson, Ranking Member Crow, and distinguished members of the subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today representing the men and women of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) alongside my Defense Intelligence Enterprise colleagues.

At NGA, we deliver timely, accurate, relevant, and actionable geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) to warfighters, policymakers, first responders, and allies and partners. NGA provides early warning to anticipate and counter threats to our homeland and around the world. We support warfighters with real-time, mission-essential intelligence that drives operational success. And, we are transforming NGA to address increasing volumes of data, leveraging innovative technologies and agile processes to deliver superior intelligence.

As a Combat Support Agency, our NGA professionals are unwavering in their commitment to deliver mission-critical GEOINT. NGA empowers our combatant commands and military services worldwide, enables decisive advantage, exposes national security threats, and fortifies homeland defense.

NGA's FY27 budget request reflects that commitment. I would like to highlight three of our investment areas.

First, the budget request includes substantial investments in ground infrastructure to support new sensors as well as resources to support the storage and compute for the volumes of GEOINT data we receive.

In addition, NGA's budget includes funding for innovative artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) capabilities necessary to process exponentially increasing volumes of geospatial data and to meet the needs of the warfighter.

Furthermore, our budget request includes resources to accelerate GEOINT collection, analysis, and production. These are critical elements to maintaining GEOINT supremacy over our adversaries.

Maintaining supremacy requires us to transform and fully leverage the proliferation of commercial and national GEOINT collection systems. The volume of data NGA ingests will more than triple by fiscal year 2032. AI/ML tools to assist with our processing of data is a national security imperative. Our GEOINT analysts use computer vision capabilities, like those within the Maven program, to automatically detect objects allowing them to rapidly triage, exploit and disseminate intelligence. We must continually access cutting-edge tools to maintain our competitive advantage in delivering timely and actionable GEOINT.

Our GEOINT professionals are the key to our mission success and serve as our asymmetric advantage across our mission sets. This is particularly true as we integrate new technologies. To bridge the gap between AI modernization and geospatial tradecraft, we are hiring and upskilling professionals capable of delivering AI-enabled GEOINT production, maximizing our ability to close knowledge gaps and inform warfighters and policymakers.

Last year, NGA implemented an agency-wide reorganization to identify efficiencies, consolidate functions, and flatten hierarchies. We continue these reviews to remain efficient, agile, and resilient.

NGA stands resolute: delivering timely, actionable GEOINT to arm our warfighters for victory and shield our nation from harm. We are focused on mission execution, empowering our workforce, forging unbreakable partnerships, and transforming capabilities to deliver GEOINT at speed and scale.

I thank the subcommittee for its leadership and support of NGA, ensuring our intelligence capabilities remain second to none, and I look forward to answering your questions here, and in our closed session.