

OPENING STATEMENT OF

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BEFORE THE 118TH CONGRESS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS

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(U) Chairman Bergman, Ranking Member Gallego, and distinguished members of the Committee, I am honored to be with you today representing the men and women of U.S. Cyber Command and the National Security Agency.

(U) Defending the nation is at the heart of our mission. The People's Republic of China (PRC) poses a challenge unlike any our Nation and allies have faced before, competing fiercely in the information domain. The men and women of USCYBERCOM and NSA continue to use the full scope of both organizations' authorities and the full spectrum of capabilities to contest the threats posed by the PRC, imposing costs, denying benefits, and deterring the adversary. We will maintain and strengthen partnerships across the U.S. Government, with foreign partners, and with private industry so that NSA and USCYBERCOM are able to provide the necessary support in furtherance of the National Security Strategy and the National Defense Strategy. We are ready and postured to contest PRC malicious activities, at home and abroad.

(U) While cyberspace threats have increased, we are ready to counter these threats with increased strength and capability. USCYBERCOM and NSA continue to use capabilities and partnerships to deny the PRC opportunities, frustrate their strategic efforts, and systematically eradicate intrusions. NSA's and USCYBERCOM's cybersecurity mission is critical to protecting the Department of Defense and the Defense Industrial Base from adversary nation-states and ransomware attacks. We are collaborating with U.S. Government partners and foreign partners to develop and execute intelligence-driven campaigns to counter adversary activities. In addition, we

continue to identify and share adversary tools and tradecraft, enabling public and private sector partners to further defend against these threats.

(U) Within USCYBERCOM and NSA, we are making investments in our workforce. Our talented, agile, and diverse people represent an important competitive advantage across all our mission sets. That is why we are committed to reducing the time our new applicants spend in the hiring process, and strengthening our expertise, both in-house and through hiring, especially those with language and technical skills.

(U) I remain focused on the reauthorization of Title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which is of paramount importance. FISA Section 702 is absolutely critical to our foreign intelligence mission. There is no substitute for this authority – the timely, actionable information it provides cannot be replicated by other means. As Congress considers reauthorization, I look forward to discussing how this tool enables mission successes and the controls we implement to ensure the protection of the privacy and civil liberties of the American people.

(U) I would like to reiterate my appreciation for the opportunity to testify in front of you today and for this Committee's continued support of our mission. I look forward to our conversation.