

**DIA 2023 Annual Threat Testimony | Opening Remarks****The House Armed Services Committee (HASC)
Intelligence and Special Operations Subcommittee (ISO)**

Thursday 27 April 2023 | 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

LTG Scott Berrier, Director Defense Intelligence Agency

(U) Chairman Bergman, Ranking Member Gallego, and Distinguished Subcommittee members thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA's) assessment of the global security environment. I am pleased to join Honorable Moultrie and GEN Nakasone today to discuss the complex threat landscape, and our work to provide timely, insightful, and rigorous intelligence. DIA and the Defense Intelligence Enterprise (DIE) are transforming our approach to meet threats to our nation posed by strategic competition with China, Russia, and other foreign nations. With your continued support, DIA and the DIE will continue to excel in providing all-source analysis, HUMINT and technical collection, Open Source collection, material exploitation, modeling and simulation, and other unique mission sets.

(U) The events of the past year clearly demonstrate that our competitors are emboldened and that they are attempting to forcefully recast the rules-based international order and challenge U.S. interests. From Russia's unprovoked and unjustified full-scale invasion of Ukraine, to China's military assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region, to an unprecedented number of North Korean missile launches,



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to Iranian-directed action against U.S. forces in the Middle East, the United States faces a multifaceted security environment in which authoritarian regimes are testing our resolve through their provocative military actions, developing capabilities to hold the homeland at risk, and showing greater risk tolerance for potential escalation.

(U) Like you, I am very concerned about the ongoing threats from China, Russia, North Korea, Iran, and violent extremist organizations, but China is our pacing challenge and DIAs Top Priority. Beijing is expanding its global influence and stepping up its multi-domain pressure campaign against Taiwan, as observed by its sharply increased rhetoric and military activity over this past year. Xi Jinping's attainment of a third term as General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party positions Beijing for further progress on military modernization and operational goals that will challenge the U.S. during the next year and beyond.

(U) The war in Ukraine is also a priority for DIA. For the Russian military, 2022 was not a good year, the "New Look Army" is gone, and in my view we are at a particularly dangerous place with Russia. Putin is not seeking an off-ramp, and Moscow has asserted publicly that it remains committed to achieving its objectives in Ukraine through military force.

(U) Understanding foreign military weapons as well as emerging and advanced scientific and technology developments is another area of expertise resident in DIA



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and the DIE. China and Russia want to incorporate advanced technologies to erode U.S. technological advantage. China is pursuing a whole-of-nation approach to technology development, and the PLA believes that integrating future technologies—especially AI—will constitute a major revolution in military affairs.

(U) DIA has unique responsibilities, expertise, and missions that you trust us to lead—such as foundational military intelligence, Defense HUMINT and Cover, Measurement and Signature Intelligence, known as MASINT, and JWICS. Your DIA officers provide strategic, operational, and tactical defense intelligence to our warfighters, defense planners, policymakers, and the acquisition community.

(U) One final area I would like to highlight during my testimony is the workforce. As you know, our workforce spans the globe with innovative and forward-leaning officers, and these talented and dedicated experts are making strides to defend the United States and our allies. From our Defense Attaches to Combatant Command J2 teams, to analysts and case officers, these professionals are mission-focused and working tirelessly behind-the-scenes for our Nation.

(U) I am proud to represent a dedicated workforce that provides intelligence on foreign actors to prevent and win wars, and to illuminate opportunities to enable the United States to outpace our strategic competitors.



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(U) I echo Honorable Moultrie's comment on Section 702 reauthorization – our all-source analysis depends on it. I look forward to your questions on the global threat environment, and thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to testify today.