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Description of document: Each response to a Question for the Record (QFR) sent by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to the House Intelligence Committee (United States House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence) and/or The Senate Intelligence Committee, 2013-2016

Requested date: 09-April-2017

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Source of document: FOIA Request
NGA FOIA Program Office
NGIA FOIA/PA Requester Service Center
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[FOIA Request form](#)

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NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

NGA-2017-FOI-00056

JAN 15 2025

RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, submitted to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) dated 09 April 2017. You requested:

"a digital/electronic copy of each response to a Question for the Record (QFR) sent by the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) to the

- 1. House Intelligence Committee (United States House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence) And/or**
- 2. The Senate Intelligence Committee."**

Enclosed with this letter are documents associated with your request. NGA subject matter experts determined that some information is being withheld in part because it is protected from release under FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(6).

- FOIA exemption (b)(1) authorizes the withholding of classified information as described in Executive Order 13526.
- FOIA exemption (b)(3) applies to information exempt by a Federal statute establishing particular criteria for withholding. In this case, the statute that authorizes withholding the names, office symbols, job titles, and salaries of NGA employees is 10 U.S.C. § 424.
- FOIA exemption (b)(6) protects all information about individuals in "personnel and medical files and similar files" when the disclosure of such information "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may appeal our determination in writing. Appeals to this determination should be made in writing within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. In the appeal, you should reference FOIA case **NGA-2017-FOI-00056**, detail your reasons for reconsideration, and include a copy of this letter. Your appeal should be mailed to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, FOIA/Privacy Act Program Office, Mail Stop N22-SISM, 7500 GEOINT Drive, Springfield, VA 22150.

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please contact Charles Melton, Branch Chief, FOIA/PA & Declass Management Program, SISM at 571-557-4141, or via e-mail, at FOIANGA@nga.mil. Additionally, the NGA FOIA Public Liaison is available to you at 571-557-4141 for any concerns or disputes you may have related to your FOIA request.

Finally, you may also seek information and resolution regarding your request through the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at (202) 741-5770 or via email at ogis@nara.gov.

Sincerely,



William M. Caniano
Director, Office of Corporate Communications
Public Release Officer and FOIA Initial
Denial Authority

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NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

S-2013-2361

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Chairman
The Honorable Saxby Chambliss, Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Feinstein and Vice Chairman Chambliss:

(U) Thank you for the opportunity to present the Fiscal Year 2014 National Geospatial-Intelligence Program budget request in the Committee's hearing on May 21, 2013. Please find attached my responses to the subsequent Questions for the Record forwarded by the Committee on June 26, 2013.

(U) Thank you again for the Committee's oversight of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the intelligence community. Your work in that regard is an important component of our mission success. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Christina Monaco, Chief of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at 571-557-5300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Letitia A. Long".

Letitia A. Long
Director

Enclosure
(~~S//TK//NF~~) Responses to FY14 Budget Hearing QFRs

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 1: Does the Director of the NGA have the responsibility, as functional manager for GEOINT, to set standards and guide investments, meaning that you should have input into the acquisitions and other decisions made by NRO, CIA, and the military at large on geospatial intelligence collectors? What authority do you have to enforce these standards and guidelines?

(U) Answer: D/NGA, as the functional manager for GEOINT, does have the responsibility to set standards and guide investments. A recent internal NGA GC review confirmed the below authorities are in place to enforce these standards and guidelines and that D/NGA can:

- (U) TCPED
 - (U) Task imagery collection, coordinates imagery processing and exploitation activities, and disseminate imagery to authorized recipients. 50 U.S.C. § 3038(b)(2); EO 12333; DoDD 5105.60.
 - (U) Across the NSG, manage GEOINT planning, collection, operations, analysis, production, dissemination, and lead unified GEOINT operations to assess, align, and execute GEOINT analysis and production. This includes the development and consolidation of GEOINT collection requirements. DoDD 5105.60.
- (U) GEOINT Systems
 - (U) Develop and field GEOINT-related systems of common concern (50 U.S.C. § 3038(b)(2)).
 - (U) Promote interoperability between existing and future GEOINT systems. ICD 113.
 - (U) Advise R&D activities with regard to GEOINT's most difficult problems. ICD 113.
 - (U) Establish GEOINT-related end-to-end and system architectures, and develop, acquire, and field GEOINT-related systems. DoDD 5000.1, DoDD 5105.60, CJCSSI 3170.01G, ICD 115, DoDI 5000.2
 - (U) Develop interoperability test and evaluation criteria, measures, and requirements for GEOINT-related systems, and ensure those systems successfully complete joint interoperability test and evaluation according to these criteria. CJCSI 6212.01F
- (U) Architecture & Standards
 - (U) Prescribe technical architecture and standards related to imagery intelligence and geospatial information and ensure compliance with such architecture and standards. 50 U.S.C. § 3038(b)(2)
 - (U) Serve as the DoD lead for GEOINT standards and prescribe, mandate, and enforce standards and architectures related to (U) GEOINT for the NSG. DoDD 5105.60.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

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- Develop and prescribe standards for GEOINT tradecraft and career development programs. DoDD 5105.60.
- (U) Provide guidance to the NSG, including issuance of doctrine, standards, policies, directives, and procedures required for GEOINT. DoDD 5105.60.
- (U) Monitor and evaluate performance of DoD components with GEOINT missions in meeting national and military GEOINT requirements, and make recommendations as appropriate. DoDD 5105.60.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

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(U) Question 2: Has the NGA ever experienced difficulties getting other IC agencies or military services to comply with standards and guidelines?

(U) Answer: NGA regularly communicates with its NSG mission partners (e.g., other IC agencies, military services, etc.) to ensure community compliance with standards and guidelines—and thereby an optimized GEOINT capability. NGA communicates and coordinates with program managers to ensure compliance with prescribed GEOINT standards and guidelines. The NSG Strategy for 2013-2018 and NSG Planning Guidance for FY2015-2019 covers a broad range of topics associated with the NSG and includes sections related to developing, adopting and ensuring adherence to information technology and content standards to maximize GEOINT interoperability and cost savings. A new GEOINT Functional Manager Seal of Approval (GFMSA) program serves as the mechanism for the DoD GEOINT Functional Manager to enforce standards and architectures related to GEOINT for the DoD Components and elements of the IC. The Geospatial Committee (GEOCOM) has also recently realigned its subcommittees to focus on compliance with the NSG Strategy and Planning Guidance. In addition, I meet twice yearly with my senior colleagues across the NSG at the National System for Geospatial Intelligence Management Council (NSMC) to influence, engage in dialogue and determine operational and fiscal priorities.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 3: Intelligence Community Directive 113 requires the functional managers to report annually to the DNI on the status of their intelligence discipline. The Committee may benefit from learning your perspective on the status of GEOINT. Would you support providing such a report? If not, why not?

(U//FOUO) Answer: I remain committed to informing and updating the Committee on any particular aspect of interest related to the GEOINT function. As to the release of any specific report prepared for the DNI, I would refer any such request to the DNI.

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SECRET//TK//NOFORN

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 4: In an April 9, 2012, Federal Times article, Director Clapper is quoted as having no interest in renewing the Intelligence Community's pay for performance program. The NGA currently has a program and plans to continue using the modified pay scale for its employees. Does the NGA's pay for performance, and its attendant higher pay overall, positively affect your ability to recruit and retain personnel? What would be the impact if the NGA normalized pay more in line with the rest of the Intelligence Community?

(U) Answer: NGA remains committed to linking accomplishment of strategic goals with employee pay through our performance pay program.

(U) Although the Secretary of Defense decided to discontinue the pay-for-performance element of the Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System (DCIPS) for organizations other than NGA, the Defense Intelligence Components, including NGA, continue to be covered by common DCIPS policies. These policies were designed to ensure equity across Defense Intelligence Components, and include a shared occupational and work-level structure, a common performance management system and a performance-based awards and bonus process. Current DCIPS regulations incorporate both the NGA-type pay banded structure, and the graded structure in place within other Defense Intelligence Components. These regulations allow for mobility within and integration across the Defense Intelligence Enterprise under a common personnel structure as envisioned in the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 1997 language that authorized DCIPS and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. All DCIPS regulations also remain aligned to DNI-issued Intelligence Community guidance on personnel management, for example performance management and joint duty

(U) NGA and the other DCIPS Components have the same pay availability. For example, the maximum amount of adjusted basic pay a non-executive employee at the highest levels of both systems (Band 5 and GG-15) can make is \$155,500. Pay is simply managed in narrower ranges in the graded systems and in broader ranges in the banded system. Based on policy, other controls are in place to ensure that NGA and the rest of the DCIPS Components have consistency in pay availability.

(U) A recent market analysis conducted by the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)) has demonstrated consistency in actual employee pay between NGA and the other DCIPS Components. In fact, the USD(I) market analysis supports a finding that NGA's internal salary management controls have been effective in maintaining salary parity both within the IC and the external job market in which it recruits. In some cases, it appears that the flexibility and internal controls of the NGA band structure are actually maintaining better salary controls in comparison to the other Components in the graded structures.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
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Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) The flexibilities of NGA's banded pay system not only allows important salary controls but also plays a vital role in recruiting and retaining NGA's world-class workforce. NGA evaluates potential employees' qualifications and is able to make market-based offers within the appropriate pay band. Competitive starting salaries and the ability to provide continued pay growth based on performance are key aspects of retaining the employees NGA needs to succeed.

(U) In his August 2010 letter to the congressional oversight committees advising of his decision to discontinue the pay-for-performance aspects of DCIPS for all but the NGA, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates noted that NGA's performance pay system is integrated with the organization's mission and culture, and that he intended to maintain the integrity of its personnel system and pay-for-performance culture. The system efficiently links employee performance to the agency mission and rewards employees for their superior accomplishments. Employees are attracted to NGA because they want to be a part of an organization that values the contribution of every employee and recognizes them through salary increases and other awards. The performance pay system is widely accepted as part of the way NGA conducts business.

(U) NGA has had a pay-for-performance system since 1999 and 69.8% of our employees have never worked in a graded pay system at NGA. A change would be costly and require funding for training, system upgrades and salary conversions. This multi-year process would not only distract employees from the mission but also result in a loss of flexibility to manage the workforce that is inherent in the banded system. The tangible and intangible cost to NGA of changing would far outweigh any perceived gain of consistency with other organizations.

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

(U) Do you agree with this statement? Why?

(U) Answer: I do not agree. As adversaries apply more sophisticated denial and deception countermeasures to our collectors, the need for more technically advanced collection systems remains high. New and advanced collection systems will provide a richer data set resulting in much better understanding of enemy intentions and activities. Ground architecture improvements allow analysts to extract much more intelligence from current and future collection systems. Space and ground capabilities are co-dependent partners in the quest for intelligence superiority.

(b)(1)

(U) Answer: Both EO/IR and Radar NTM baseline platforms remain an integral part of a persistent-GEOINT environment using persistent system cueing (i.e. activity detection) to gather high quality point collections (i.e. high resolution target characterization).

(U) What is the right mix between new and legacy hardware?

(U) Answer: NGA is constantly reviewing our investments in legacy hardware while investing in future systems. The bottom line for hardware decisions is ensuring that there are no service gaps in either availability or capability. Although at some point it is obvious that it no longer makes sense to invest in obsolete hardware, each decision must be made on its own merits and weighed against the overall strategy. The strategy is based on three components: mean service life, capability of the system, and budget. These investments cannot be made in a vacuum and must align with the directives provided to the community. Much of this is driven by the need to evolve systems that can operate under the huge data loads, information sharing, and advances in software that drives the need for new hardware.

(b)(1)

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long



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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
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Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

(U//~~FOUO~~) Answer: NGA does not have access to the two GeoEye satellites currently on orbit, nor do we have insight into how they are being used to satisfy other (non-USG) customer requirements. Considering the current fiscal climate, NGA is conducting informal discussions with DigitalGlobe to explore no-cost options with the goal of securing access to the combined (GeoEye and DigitalGlobe) imagery archives and limited access to GeoEye satellites in exchange for other concessions. At this time, we cannot provide information on the price differential for access to the GeoEye satellites since no contractual agreements have been reached.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
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(b)(1)

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**Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long**

(b) (1)

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

(U//FOUO) Answer: Yes. All commercial imagery purchased under the EV contract is unclassified and shareable—attributes that are valued by many users, including, but not limited to, military customers, humanitarian assistance/disaster responders, and the Department of State (DOS). Commercial imagery is often requested to support operations and exercises with foreign partners—especially those not in the “Five Eyes” group. Recent examples include products for the International Security Assistance Force for Afghanistan (ISAF), joint operations with African Union nations, and demarche support for DOS. Commercial imagery also supplies the vast majority of US-provided base imagery for the Multinational Geospatial Co-Production program, which enables significant USG cost avoidance as NGA shares the cost of global foundation and mapping production with over 30 nations worldwide.

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Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

(U) Answer:

(U//FOUO) While more coverage is always better, we continue to manage all available GEOINT sources to sufficiently satisfy requirements in high-current-interest (HCI) areas around the globe. The FY13 EnhancedView reduction that ended our access to the GeoEye satellites was implemented in a manner to protect global area collection capacity required for the Foundation mission at the expense of revisit rates. NGA adjusted its collection strategies accordingly prior to the end of the GeoEye contract.

(b)(1)

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

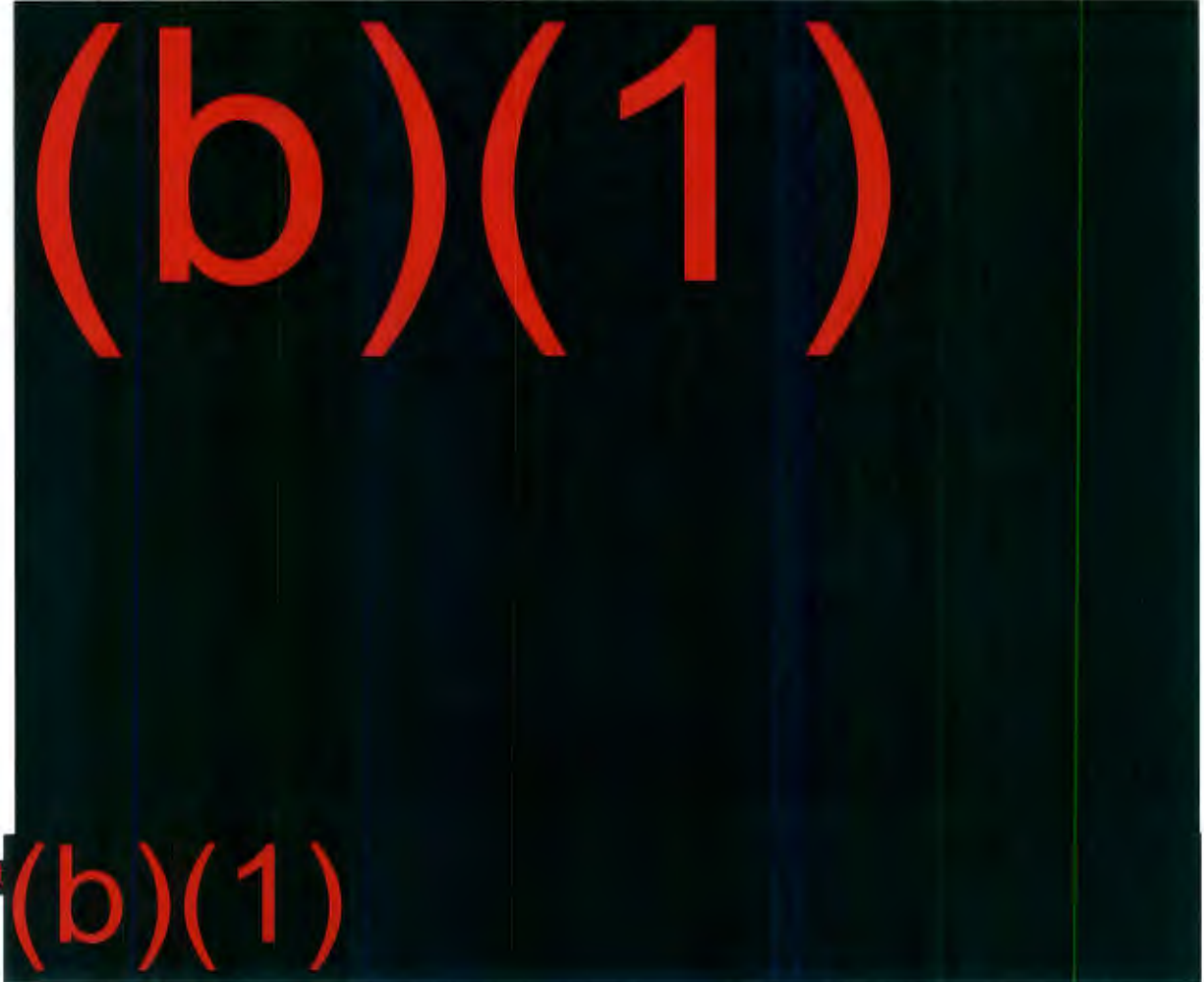
(U) Question 12: Has your agency considered or discussed the ability of commercial providers to satisfy even more national requirements utilizing current or future systems?



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**Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long**



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**Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long**

(U) Question 14: Does the NGA have substantial concerns or equities in the potential reallocation of RF spectrum?

(U) Answer: The National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) is represented on the DNI's Intelligence Community Spectrum Council and we are aware of the issues currently being worked concerning the reallocation of Radio Frequency (RF) spectrum. NGA has been actively engaged in two issues over the past eighteen months.

- 1. (U) NGA's input has been important in determining that one commercial proposition , LightSquared, would have had a negative impact on NGA's mission by degrading and even negating the Global Positioning System in some cases. As a Result, the LightSquared proposal was denied.**
- 2. (U) NGA is aware of Canada's point that the RADARSAT Synthetic Aperture Radar Earth remote sensing satellite might have issues with some of the reallocation plans, and that might impact NGA's mission. This potential impact is currently being studied by Industry Canada with the National Telecommunication and Information Administration. This information will be passed to the NGA and Canada's Director of Space Requirements for their Department of National Defence, who would be in a position to advise the Canadian Chief of Defence Intelligence on the findings.**

(U) Although NGA does not build systems with integral radio systems, we are a primary user of communications as a content provider.

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 15: I understand that a rather substantial design change has been made to LAPIS. This design change contradicts years' worth of testimony from the NRO about the merits of a segmented, active optic telescope. Instead, the NRO's proposed design would go back to a large, monolithic glass mirror, similar to what it used in ECS and EECS, only larger.

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

**Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long**

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

• b1

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

(b)(1)

SECRET//TK//NOFORN

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(3) 10 USC 424

(b)(1)

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SECRET//TK//NOFORN

Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 18: What are your plans to provide commercial SAR data to CCMDs, Services and agencies to support their missions and operations?

(U//FOUO) Answer: NGA will continue to collect validated radar requirements from CCMDs, Services, and agencies, and will seek to satisfy those requirements using the most appropriate and efficient GEOINT source available. For those requirements uniquely suited to COMSAR sensors, NGA will prioritize the requirements and seek to satisfy them with imagery acquired under the NorthernView agreement or with data acquired through the three IDIQ COMSAR contracts. NGA is also investigating options to improve the timeliness of COMSAR delivery to users as part of an FY13 Military Intelligence Program (MIP) congressional add for "...improvements to systems and processes for the tasking, processing, discovery, and dissemination of commercial imagery." Options include using a prime vendor to streamline the ordering and dissemination of COMSAR imagery to USG customers. Matured solutions will inform the Request for Proposal for the follow-on contracts to the existing IDIQ COMSAR contracts.

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(3) 10 USC 424

(b)(1)

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Hearing Date: 21 May 2013

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U) Question 20: As you know CSTARS was developed to support SOUTHCOM, PACOM and the NGA as well as being an independent broker to handle the commercial SAR vendors and optical satellite data vendors to supply the CCMDs and all USG agencies with data and data products from their satellites. CSTARS has the means and capacity and expertise to fulfill these requirements in a cost-savings, efficient, rapid and secure way. They have licenses, they own the processors, they have secure connectivity to the USG, and experts to advise and support all your agency's needs. How does the utility of this National Asset play in your current and future efforts to support the US CCMDs with commercial data?

(U//FOUO) Answer: As indicated in the responses to questions 18 and 19, NGA intends to continue to satisfy USG requirements unique to COMSAR via NorthernView and the existing IDIQ COMSAR contracts. While the cancelled CSTARS program demonstrated a limited capability to provide COMSAR imagery quickly to a single area of operations (AOR) during the 2010-2012 Commercial Radar Operational Support to SOUTHCOM (CROSS) Joint Capability Technology Demonstration (JCTD), the Office of the Secretary of Defense cancelled the CSTARS portion of the JCTD in 2012 due to lack of funds, and it has not played a role in the NGA COMSAR strategy since then. NGA will continue to assess all potential COMSAR service providers—including CSTARS and other commercial data providers—and will pursue affordable overhead radar solutions that enable global coverage, meet USG operational timelines, and provide the best value to the USG.

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NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

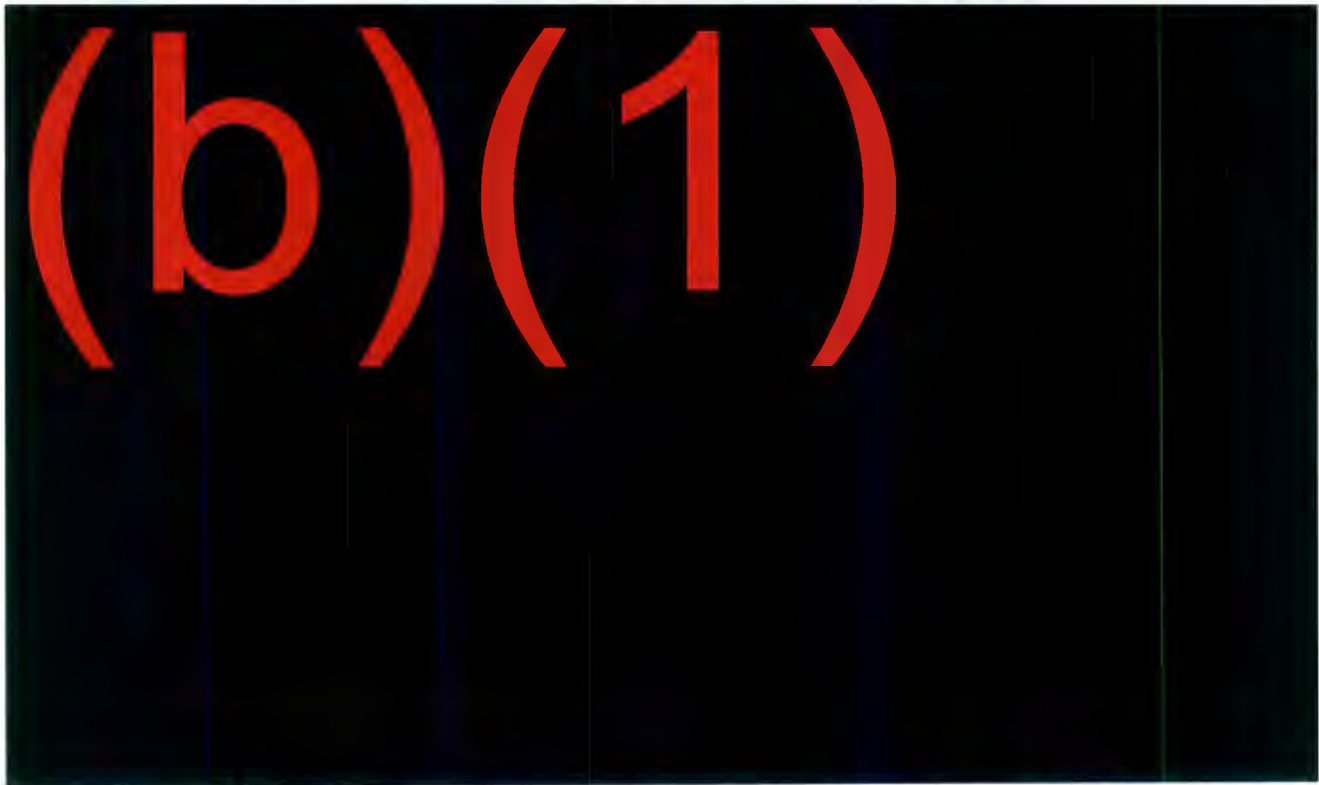
7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

U-2016-00903

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
211 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Madam Vice Chairman:

(U//FOUO) On 18 March, I sent you an initial response to two of the three items requested by Senators present at the committee's hearing on 10 March 2016. This letter addresses the remaining request, which was to provide FY2017 budget request levels for commercial GEOINT.



(U//FOUO) If you require further information on this issue, please contact [REDACTED], who may be reached at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Robert Cardillo
Director

SECRET//NOFORN

~~TOP SECRET//TK//NOFORN~~



NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

TS-2016-00904

The Honorable Joseph J. Heck, Chairman
The Honorable Terril A. Sewell, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
Intelligence and Overhead Architecture
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
US House of Representatives
HVC-304, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

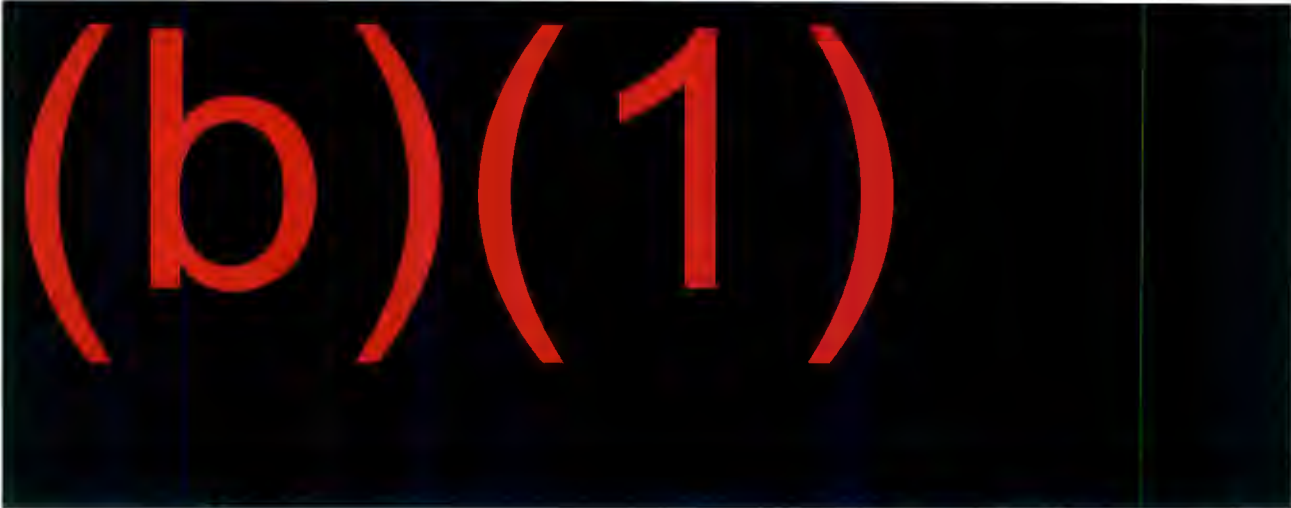
Dear Chairman Heck and Representative Sewell:

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

CL BY: [REDACTED]
CL REASON: GEOINT CG dated 20100916
DECL ON: 20411231

~~TOP SECRET//TK//NOFORN~~



(U//FOUO) If you require further information, please contact (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6) (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6), who may be reached at [redacted].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan M. Gordon", is written over a light gray signature line.

Susan M. Gordon
Deputy Director



NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

TS-2014-2146

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Chairman
The Honorable Saxby Chambliss, Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Feinstein and Vice Chairman Chambliss:

(b)(1)

(U) Thank you again for the Committee's oversight of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the Intelligence Community. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact [redacted] (b)(6)

[redacted] (b)(6)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Letitia A. Long".

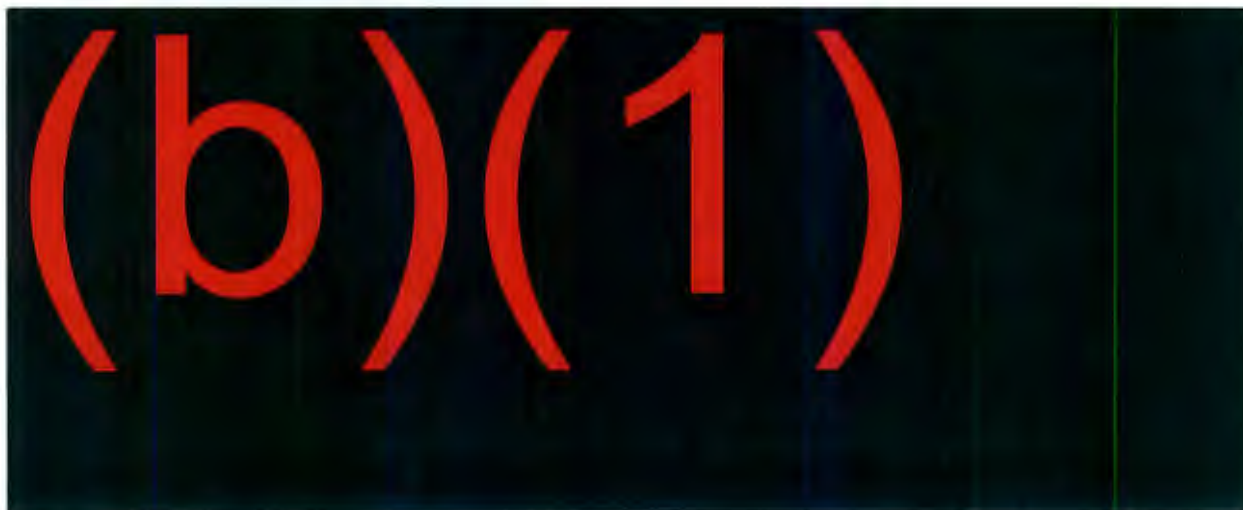
Letitia A. Long
Director

Enclosure
(TS//TK//NF) Responses to FY15 Budget Hearing QFRs

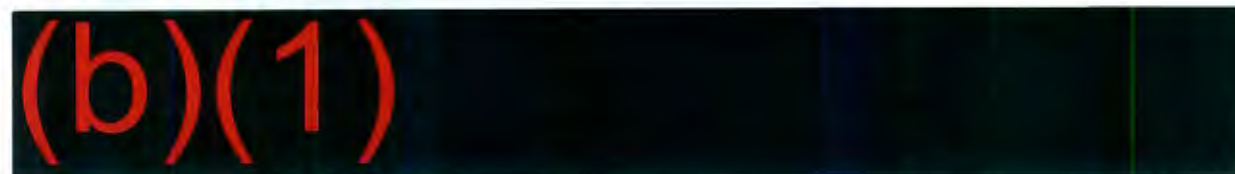
Hearing Date: 13 May 2014
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U//FOUO) Question 1: Persistence: The Intelligence Community has made “persistence” the anchoring concept for the future overhead architecture. The Committee has been briefed that from an NGA perspective, “Persistent GEOINT is a focused intelligence strategy to obtain geospatial content with sufficient periodicity and duration to detect change, characterize activity, infer behavior, and discover unknowns—where the rate of information refresh equals or exceeds the rate of change.”

(U//FOUO) How has NGA’s definition of persistence been institutionalized, e.g., in directive or requirements documents? How does this definition relate to other definitions of persistence in the IC?



(U//FOUO) NGA’s definition of persistence is aligned with definitions used across the Intelligence Community, which all use distinct terminology based on their specific intelligence discipline but share a similar overarching intent.



Hearing Date: 13 May 2014
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(U//FOUO) Question 2: Activity-Based Intelligence (ABI): NGA has made ABI the centerpiece of its collection and analysis activities.

(U//FOUO) How does ABI relate to the NGA Future State Vision's call for "immersive intelligence"?

(U//FOUO) Answer: (b)(3) 10 USC 424
(b)(3) 10 USC 424

(U//FOUO) How does ABI relate to anticipatory intelligence?

(U//FOUO) Answer: (b)(3) 10 USC 424
(b)(3) 10 USC 424

(U//FOUO) How does ABI relate to integrated intelligence?

(U//FOUO) Answer: (b)(3) 10 USC 424
(b)(3) 10 USC 424

Hearing Date: 13 May 2014
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 13 May 2014
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(b)(1)

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(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 13 May 2014
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Letitia A. Long

(b) (1)

(b) (1)



SECRET//TK//IMCON//NOFORN
NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

TS-2015-01449

The Honorable Joseph J. Heck
Chairman
The Honorable Terri A. Sewell
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
Intelligence and Overhead Architecture
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
US House of Representatives
HVC-304, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

Dear Mr. Chairman and Representative Sewell:

(b)(1)

Classified By: [REDACTED]
Derived From: GEOINT CG dated 20100916
Declassify On: 20401231

SECRET//TK//IMCON//NOFORN

(b)(1) (b)(1)
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(b)(1)

(U) Thank you again for the subcommittee's oversight of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the Intelligence Community. Your work is an important component of our mission success. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)

Sincerely,



Robert Cardillo
Director



NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

TS-2016-01186

MAY 06 2016

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
211 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Vice Chairman Feinstein:

(U) Thank you for the opportunity to present the fiscal year 2017 (FY17) National Geospatial Intelligence Program budget request in the Committee's hearing on 10 March 2016. My responses to the questions for the record (QFR) forwarded by the Committee on 07 April 2016 are attached.

(U) If you require further information, my point of contact is (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6), who may be reached at (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6).

Sincerely,


Robert Cardillo
Director

Enclosure

(U) Responses to FY17 Budget Hearing QFRs (~~TS//TK//RSEN~~)

Classified By: [REDACTED]
Derived From: NGA SCG COL-08.1.1
Declassify On: 20411231

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~~TOP SECRET//TK//RSEN/NOFORN~~

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

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Classified By: [REDACTED]
Derived From: NGA SCG COL-08.1.1
Declassify On: 20411231

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b) (1)

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(U//FOUO) NGA does not maintain separate or distinct budget investments for processing, storing, disseminating, and exploiting foreign commercial SAR.

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

3. (U) Funding Approach for Next NGA West

(U) Please provide total cost estimates for Next NGA West for different funding profile assumptions.

(U//FOUO) Answer: NGA continues to engage with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Office of Management and Budget to further refine the funding profile for Next NGA West (N2W). Recent discussions have focused on a two-phased approach. This change will probably not increase the overall MILCON requirement. There could be small increases to overall costs, although estimates are well within cost estimate variances. The working cost estimate for N2W of approximately \$1.6B was developed four years ago. We will continue to refine cost estimates throughout the design phase, and we will have the actual costs when we award the contract.

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 4. (U) Open Skies Treaty (OST)

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 5. (U) Commercial Space Innovation:

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(U//FOUO) Answer: The commercialization of space-borne remote sensing collection and GEOINT analysis offers opportunities for NGA to leverage commercial capabilities ranging from analysis as a service to the raw sensor data being collected by the emerging companies. The numerous sources will present far more data than our analysts can exploit.

- (U//FOUO) The constellations of commercial small satellites expected within the next five years include higher resolution imagery that NGA will want to access for exploitation; in addition, the planned constellations also include lower resolution imagery whose raw data is best leveraged by NGA via commercial data services (such as change detection and alerting services) and analysis as a service.
- (U//FOUO) New industry offerings also include companies that focus solely on earth sensing capabilities for the purpose of change detection. They are beginning to offer algorithms to automate object recognition in imagery, an analytic service that NGA will look to leverage as the technology matures to enable our analysts to better utilize all available overhead sensors without literal exploitation of each dataset.
- (U//FOUO) NGA is working with a wide variety of user groups and mission partners such as In-Q-Tel and NRO to assess the utility of these new capabilities as they mature. These assessments will inform NGA capability procurement decisions.

(b)(1)

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b)(1)

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(U//FOUO) Answer: NGA has strategically partnered with the commercial sector for years to acquire and dramatically improve delivery of commercial GEOINT to the NSG and has recently expanded outreach and coordination to the most mature of the "new space" providers. In the future, NGA anticipates taking a multi-pronged approach that is likely to include the traditional purchase of some commercial imagery data, purchasing analysis as a service to augment NGA analysis, and purchasing and co-developing alerting services and algorithms for automated object/change detection from commercial data streams, enabling analysts to leverage commercial sources they would not otherwise have time to individually exploit.

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 6. (U) Commercial Space and Intelligence Requirements:

(b) (1)

(b) (1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b)(1)

(U//FOUO) Answer: There are no current plans to move execution of NGA's primary existing commercial imagery contract (EnhancedView) to NRO. The DNI has directed the establishment of a joint initiative co-led by NGA and NRO to develop a framework to evaluate emerging capabilities providers and alternative solutions to acquire or invest in commercial capabilities. Both agencies recognize that commercial GEOINT sources provide essential capabilities and capacity that complement and augment IC capabilities and, in some cases, already carry IC and DoD mission loads. NGA and NRO are working to synergize both agencies' interactions with the commercial GEOINT industry and develop a framework to jointly assess the potential value of emerging commercial capabilities and inform IC capability and resource decisions going forward to ensure the best mix of national and commercial GEOINT capabilities for NSG users.

(b)(1)

(U//FOUO) Answer: At this point, NGA and NRO are developing an implementation plan to meet DNI direction. The anticipated joint initiative between the agencies will leverage the strengths of both agencies to better engage with industry and inform USG resource and capability decisions.

(b)(1)

(U//FOUO) Answer: The EnhancedView contract with DigitalGlobe currently provides the majority of commercial imagery for the NSG and is an integral part of the GEOINT architecture. While we continue to explore emerging commercial future GEOINT capabilities, until new commercial capabilities have demonstrated that they can satisfy our intelligence and foundation requirements, we will continue to rely on proven commercial GEOINT models, such as the EnhancedView contract, for access to mission-essential capabilities. Just as we do for each option year of the EnhancedView

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

contract, NGA will assess industry's potential capabilities against the requirements in the EnhancedView Statement of Requirements (SOR) prior to executing a possible extension, and we will notify the DNI and Congress accordingly.

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 8. (U) Commercial Remote Sensing Policies and Restrictions

(b)(3) 10 USC 424

(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

- If US policy is to promote policies to encourage the competitiveness of US commercial imagery providers, why are we changing the terms of their licenses to be more restrictive, especially when foreign competitors already provide similar capabilities?

(U) Answer: US policy is to encourage competitiveness of US commercial imagery providers and, at the same time, ensure US national security. The USG must balance these goals when considering license restrictions.

(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 9. (b)(1)

(b)(1)

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(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 11. (U) Space Radar

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(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

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Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

Question 12. (b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

Hearing Date: 10 March 2016
Committee: SSCI
Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(b)(1)

(b)(1)



SECRET//NOFORN
NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

S-2016-00833

MAR 18 2016

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
211 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Burr and Vice Chairman Feinstein:

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

(U//FOUO) **Next NGA West.** NGA is engaged with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Office of Management and Budget to further refine the funding profile for N2W. I will share the results of these discussions once they are complete. The previous working cost estimate for N2W, developed 2 years ago, was approximately \$1.6 billion.

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424

(U//FOUO) If you require further information on this issue, please contact [REDACTED]

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (FOUO)

Sincerely,

Robert Cardillo
Director

SECRET//NOFORN

UNCLASSIFIED

CID: U-2016-00833 NGA STAFF SUMMARY SHEET FOR FRONT OFFICE SIGNATURES Revised 15 DEC 2014

TO	FOR	SIGNATURE/DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE/DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE/DATE
KC COORDINATION All listed KCs have coordinated on this staff package:	SI	<i>→ pulled</i> IA ✓ FM ✓	DP	COORD		DD	COORD	
			DO	COORD		D	SIGN	3/14/16
			CoS	COORD				
ONE	EDIT/REVIEW							

N-CERTS START DATE: 17 Mar 16	AO: Open: Secure:	DUE TO OPR BY COLLABS: 18 Mar 16	DATE DELIVERED TO ONE: 18 Mar 16	DUE TO FINAL SIGNATORY: When Signed	DUE TO EXTERNAL ORG: Chairman Burr DUE: When Signed
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SUBJECT: (U) FOR ACTION: D/NGA Response to Chairman, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, ref 10 March 2016 Hearing Due Outs

SUMMARY:

1. (U) Purpose and Recommendation. For D/NGA to sign the response letter to Chairman SSCI
2. (U) Discussion. D/NGA promised the SSCI Chairman and SSCI members to provide additional information in response to these questions/requests:
 - Provide the non-phased cost for Next NGA West.
 - What is the FY2017 budget request for Commercial GEOINT?
 - What did NGA pay for foreign radar imaging in FY2015?
3. (U) Commitments. The intent is for to send this response to SSCI on 21 March 2016 and for the D/NGA to sign the response prior to his travel.


THIS PACKAGE IS READY FOR THE FRONT OFFICE:




 Date: 18 Mar '16
 William M. Caniano
 Director
 OCC

ONE USE ONLY	ON TIME	K-CON	K-EDT	COM-RP	COM-AV	S/C	H/C	S/G	CLASS	FORM	REC'D	CGL RVW	EDT 1	EDT 2
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
CID: U-2016-00833 NGA STAFF SUMMARY SHEET FOR KEY COMPONENT COORDINATION Revised 29 OCT 2014

TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE
S	COORD							
IA	COORD							
FM	COORD	 3/18/2016						

N-CERTS START DATE: 17 Mar 16	AC:  Open:  Secure: 	DUE TO OPR BY COLLABS: 18 Mar 16	DATE DELIVERED TO ONE: N/A	DUE TO FINAL SIGNATORY: When Signed	DUE TO EXTERNAL ORG: Chairman Burr DUE: When Signed
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SUBJECT: (U) FOR ACTION: D/NGA Response To SSCI Chairman Burr and SSCI Member Questions.

SUMMARY:

- (U) Purpose and Recommendation. For D/NGA to sign the response letter to SSCI Chairman.
- (U) Discussion. D/NGA promised the SSCI Chairman and SSCI members to provide additional information in response to these questions/requests:
 - Provide the non-phased cost for Next NGA West.
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 - What did NGA pay for foreign radar imaging in FY2015?
- (U) Commitments. The intent is for  to send this response to SSCI on 21 March 2016 and for the D/NGA to sign the response prior to his travel.

Please edit N2W paragraph ~~to~~ and replace the word "determine" with "further review".

Thanks

 (b)(3)(10) USC 424, (b)(6)


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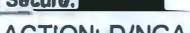
Date: _____
William M. Caniano
Director
OCC

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
CID: U-2016-00833 NGA STAFF SUMMARY SHEET FOR KEY COMPONENT COORDINATION Revised 29 OCT2014

TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE	TO	FOR	SIGNATURE / DATE
S	COORD							
IA	COORD	 18 Mar 16						
FM	COORD							

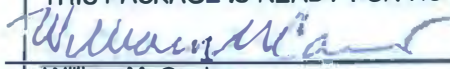
N-CERT'S START DATE: 17 Mar 16	AO:  Open:  Secure: 	DUE TO OPR BY COLLABS: 18 Mar 16	DATE DELIVERED TO ONE: N/A	DUE TO FINAL SIGNATORY: When Signed	DUE TO EXTERNAL ORG: Chairman Burr DUE: When Signed
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SUBJECT: (U) FOR ACTION: D/NGA Response To SSCI Chairman Burr and SSCI Member Questions.

SUMMARY:

- (U) Purpose and Recommendation. For D/NGA to sign the response letter to SSCI Chairman.
- (U) Discussion. D/NGA promised the SSCI Chairman and SSCI members to provide additional information in response to these questions/requests:
 - Provide the non-phased cost for Next NGA West.
 - What is the FY2017 budget request for Commercial GEOINT?
 - What did NGA pay for foreign radar imaging in FY2015?
- (U) Commitments. The intent is for  to send this response to SSCI on 21 March 2016 and for the D/NGA to sign the response prior to his travel.

THIS PACKAGE IS READY FOR KC COLLABORATION:

 Date: 3/18/16
 William M. Canlano
 Director
 OCC
 ..

ONE USE ONLY	ON TIME	K-CON	K-EDT	COM-RP	COM-AV	S/C	HC	SIG	CLASS	FORM	REC'D	AM RVW	EDT 1	EDT 2
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~~TOP SECRET//TK//FGI//ISR//NOFORN~~
NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

TS-2015-03456

OCT 08 2015

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Feinstein:

(b)(1)

(U) If you require further information, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424, (b)(6) [redacted], who may be reached at [redacted]

Sincerely,

Robert Cardillo
Director

Enclosure:

1. (b)(1)

CL BY: [redacted]
CL REASON: GEOINT CG dated 20100916
DECL ON: 20401231

UPON REMOVAL OF ENCLOSURE, THIS BECOMES ~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~TOP SECRET//TK//FGI//ISR//NOFORN~~

Hearing Date: 09 September 2015

Committee: SSCI

Witness: Director Robert Cardillo

(S//NF) (b)(1)
(b)(1) (b)(1)
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(S//NF) Answer: (b)(1)
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(S//NF) Answer: (b)(1)
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(S//NF) Answer: (b)(1)
(b)(1)

CL BY: [REDACTED]
CL REASON: GEOINT CG dated 20100916
DECL ON: 20401231

(b) (1)

(U) Uranium is a key building block of the nuclear fuel and weapons cycle and must be mined, milled, converted, and enriched.

(b) (1)

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NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7500 GEOINT Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22150

U-2016-03106

NOV 23 2016

The Honorable Richard Burr
Chairman
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Vice Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Burr and Vice Chairman Feinstein:

(U) Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the committee on the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency on 27 September 2016. Please find attached my responses to the subsequent Questions for the Record forwarded by the Committee on 13 October 2016.

(U) If you require further information, please have your staff contact [redacted] (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6)
[redacted] (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 (b)(6)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Cardillo".

Robert Cardillo
Director

Enclosure

(U) Responses to Questions for the Record (S//NF)

Classified By: [redacted]
Derived From: NGA SCG COL-08.1.1
Declassify On: 20411231

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Question for the Record

Hearing date: September 27th, 2016
Hearing subject: NGA Unclassified
Hearing
Committee: Senate Select Committee on
Intelligence (SSCI)
Member: None Identified
Witness: Director Cardillo
Question: 1-3
Response prepared by: NGA

(U) Question 1: Sentiment Analysis

(U) The NGA recently announced that it is launching a pilot program to assess whether employees might be insider threats by conducting “sentiment analysis.”

(U) How will this pilot program will be implemented?

(U) Answer:

(U) Sentiment analysis tools incorporate evidence-based behavioral models, such as the critical pathway of insider threat, for the purpose of identifying, observing, baselining, and documenting individuals’ anomalous behaviors and changes over time. Intelligence Community agencies are currently deploying sentiment analysis tools in tandem with existing User Activity Monitoring (UAM) software to enhance the detection of anomalous activity related to malicious insider activity. In order to gauge the effectiveness and feasibility of such programs in improving detection accuracy, the NGA Insider Threat Office plans to assess how current popular sentiment analysis tools test against a sample of historical, de-identified communications. In collaboration with a Federally Funded Research and Development Center, this proposed pilot was vetted through appropriate NGA channels to evaluate the legal and ethical obligations that NGA must consider when balancing individual privacy with the responsibility to protect the workforce and sensitive information. It is only after this careful examination of whether such sentiment analysis tools might improve anomaly detection that the Insider Threat Office will consider whether or not to add such tool(s) to its existing capabilities in “real time.”

(U) Question 2: What will constitute a negative sentiment?

(U) Answer:

(U) Sentiment analysis software programs do not explicitly target negative sentiments. Rather, such programs strive to identify sentiments and behaviors related to espionage, organizational

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sabotage, or harm to self or others----behaviors that are crucial in detecting and assessing insider threats. In all cases, Insider Threat personnel analyze all leads, and identify, prioritize, and investigate potential malicious insiders. Sentiment analysis methodologies use sophisticated algorithms to factor in dimensions of human behavior to assess insider threat risk from multiple perspectives.

(U) Question 3: How will the NGA ensure that employees are not punished or singled out for being critical of their management, or for holding particular policy views?

(U) Answer:

(U) In its efforts to prevent harm to NGA personnel, systems and information, the Insider Threat Office is authorized by Executive Order 13587 to maintain an analytic and response capability and to manually and electronically gather, integrate, review, assess, and respond to information derived from multiple agency stakeholders, the monitoring of user activity, and other sources as necessary and appropriate. The Insider Threat Office personnel respond to incidents involving concerning behaviors and do not “target” specific acts, beliefs or communications. Their goal is to objectively engage in threat assessment in order to deter and mitigate potential harm while making appropriate referrals. As such, the Insider Threat Office pays diligent attention to privacy issues, as required by the Privacy Act of 1974. The Insider Threat Office does not engage in, direct, support, or facilitate any punitive or degrading practices which may be hurtful to NGA personnel.

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Question for the Record

Hearing date: September 27th, 2016
Hearing subject: NGA Unclassified
Hearing
Committee: Senate Select Committee on
Intelligence (SSCI)
Member: None Identified
Witness: Director Cardillo
Question: 4
Response prepared by: NGA

(U) Question 4: Recruitment and Retention

(U) You are quoted in a Federal News Radio article (accessed via <http://federalnewsradio.com/workforce/2016/09/talent-pool-wanes-intel-community-looks-contractors/>) as saying that “the employee shortage for talented information specialists and scientists in the intelligence community is ‘too big’.” You also state that this is “a sign of a larger trend that government and the Defense Department are unable to attract top talent to their agencies over private industry. It’s a trend that has become more and more of a concern over the past decade and has forced some agencies to turn to contractors for work instead of working in-house.”

(U) How are you improving recruitment and retention of in-house employees?

(U) Answer:

(U) NGA has identified challenges associated with acquiring and retaining this type of talent, and has designated these occupations as “Investment Area Work Roles.” The agency is reserving the use of monetary recruitment incentives to attract and acquire talent in these designated investment areas. NGA is also exploring alternative sourcing methods for acquiring this talent, to include Term and Temporary Appointments and Interagency Personnel Agreements, as well as offering rotational assignments with other agencies that result in Joint Duty credit. NGA continues to attend STEM-focused recruitment events. The FY17 recruitment strategy is focused on modernizing NGA’s approaches to compete for high-demand technical talent. This includes investments in recruitment technologies to source high-tech talent online which will allow us to reach talent markets we have not previously sourced.

(U) To improve retention in technology careers, NGA continues to mature the Information Technology Career Service (ITCS). ITCS has developed career paths for its technical workforce allowing them to understand what education, experience, and exposure are needed to progress within the career service. ITCS provides educational programs to develop its workforce on cutting-edge technologies, programs, and certifications. ITCS conducts structured career development panels and yearly promotion panels providing employees with individual feedback on development. This focused career pathing is intended to support the development of our technical workforce.

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Question for the Record

Hearing date: September 27th, 2016
Hearing subject: NGA Unclassified
Hearing
Committee: Senate Select Committee on
Intelligence (SSCI)
Member: None Identified
Witness: Director Cardillo
Questions: 5-7
Response prepared by: NGA

(U) Questions 5-7: GEOINT Requirements Development

(U) NGA leads efforts to capture, validate, prioritize and adjudicate the GEOINT needs of the National System for Geospatial Intelligence and Allied System for Geospatial Intelligence.

(U) Question 5. How do you factor cost and technical risk of collection systems into these requirements?

(U) Answer:

(U) NGA, as well as all members of the U.S. Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense Commands and Services, are participants in the Intelligence Community Capability Requirements (ICCR) process.

(U) The ICCR process validates the capability requirements for each Major System Acquisition (MSA) to include National Technical Means (NTM) collection systems. Each MSA's requirements, cost, and associated costs and technical risks are documented in a Statement of Capability (SOC). The SOC is a required acquisition artifact that must be completed before an MSA can be approved at Milestone-B and proceed to acquisition.

(U) Question 6. Is the NGA developing requirements for national GEOINT systems and executing collection strategies that would allow the NRO to focus its acquisition priorities on only those niche, exotic capabilities that commercial systems are currently prohibited from providing?

(U) Answer:

(U) NGA is developing the GEOINT Enterprise Capability Document (ECD) to guide development of current and future GEOINT capabilities, and inform upcoming decisions on

requirements, architecture tradeoffs and affordability of future GEOINT collection systems. The GEOINT ECD reflects NGA analysis of GEOINT community user needs and the enterprise functional capabilities required to meet those needs. Per the FY2018-2022 Consolidated Intelligence Guidance, the GEOINT ECD will be submitted to ODNI by 24 November 2016. When designated by ODNI as a sponsor, NGA drafts GEOINT requirements documents (SOCs) within the ICCR process.

(U) Question 7. How do we nurture innovation in the national security satellite and GEOINT business?

(U) NGA and its predecessor agencies have a long history of nurturing innovation in the national security satellite and GEOINT business dating back to the very early satellite collection systems and in its partnerships with industry. Pathfinder and/or Special Access Programs are used to test potential satellite systems before proceeding to acquisition. NGA also conducted GEOINT Pathfinder activities to explore how it could succeed in utilizing information obtained from public GEOINT sources -- a mix of both collection and ground enterprise capabilities. Along those same lines, it utilized crowd sourcing in its responses to the Ebola outbreak in Africa and the earthquake in Nepal.

(U) One of the Commercial GEOINT Activity's (CGA) main objectives is to serve as a focal point for industry engagement about new and emerging commercial GEOINT capabilities. CGA relies on its parent agencies to articulate user requirements and then communicates a unified message to industry about current and future needs and priorities. For example, CGA has been meeting regularly with emergent West Coast commercial GEOINT companies as well as with venture capital accelerator companies who nurture space-related enterprises to include commercial GEOINT providers. This dialogue will assist in the early identification of emergent GEOINT providers during their initial "Angel investment" phase.

(U) CGA is working with industry partners to develop a public "Leader Board" concept which will promote commercial competition and increase transparency with regard to US Government interests. The Leader Board concept is based on publicly identifying competitive commercial offerings via transparent criteria that includes standardized vendor input and CGA's assessment criteria for competitive differentiation. We anticipate the Leader Board will be published in FY17.

(U) Currently NGA has 36 active Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA), which are written agreements between a government agency and a non-federal entity which can be a commercial company, nonprofit, university or individual to work together on a project. Legislatively created, a CRADA allows agencies and non-federal partners to optimize their resources, share technical expertise in a protected environment, share intellectual property emerging from the effort, and speed the commercialization of federally developed technology. Some of our industry partners with CRADAs are Digital Globe, ESRI, General Dynamics, Northrop Grumman, and Urban Robotics.

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

(U) NGA applied Research and Development (R&D) is focused on performing, influencing, and leveraging fundamental, path-breaking science and technology. NGA Research partners with other R&D activities across DoD, the IC, universities, small and large businesses, and with our international partners on research in areas such as deep learning and artificial intelligence to drive innovations in GEOINT.

Question for the Record

Hearing date: September 27th, 2016
Hearing subject: NGA Unclassified
Hearing
Committee: Senate Select Committee on
Intelligence (SSCI)
Member: None Identified
Witness: Director Cardillo
Question: 8
Response prepared by: NGA

(U) Question 8: Functional Availability

(U) The House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence issued a report in 2014 that claimed US reconnaissance satellite acquisition practices underestimate the average life expectancy (or “functional availability”) of the nation’s reconnaissance satellites, noting that the taxpayer could be spending billions of dollars per year unnecessarily, as there is little independent check on industry estimates of what is needed to maintain an “industrial base”.

(U) What role does NGA play in estimating the requirements for when satellites are replaced or when they may be supplemented by other sources such as commercial imagery – which could be substantially less expensive?

(U) Answer:

(b)(1)

(b)(1)

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Question for the Record

Hearing date: September 27th, 2016
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Witness: Director Cardillo
Question: 9
Response prepared by: NGA

(U) Question 9: Commercial Imagery

(U) How will NGA ensure that NRO's responsibility for acquiring NTM imagery does not conflict with any future efforts to acquire commercial imagery?

(U) Answer:

(U//~~FOUO~~) NGA and NRO have unique acquisition and operational authorities. The premise behind the formation of the Commercial GEOINT Activity (CGA), however, was and is that NGA and NRO will work together to evaluate emerging commercial GEOINT data and services and then base all future investment and capability development decisions, both commercial and national, on matching user needs to available or evolving commercial capabilities. For example, while NGA will continue to manage the EnhancedView contract through its expiration in 2020, we are already working with NRO, via the CGA, to explore collaborative opportunities for follow-on commercial contracts to satisfy customer requirements and optimize the efficiency of the overhead architecture. Furthermore, as GEOINT Functional Manager, NGA will continue to lead the development of user needs and advocate for system allocations which take full advantage of commercial offerings.