

**Opening Statement of U.S. Senator Jack Reed**  
**Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Committee**

**Room SDG-50**  
**Dirksen Senate Office Building**  
**Thursday, March 19, 2015**

**To receive testimony on U.S. Strategic Command, U.S. Transportation Command,  
and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for  
Fiscal Year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.**

*(As Prepared for Delivery)*

I wish to join Chairman McCain in welcoming our witnesses. I thank you all for your service to our country.

Admiral Haney, the U.S. Strategic Command is responsible for developing a wide range of deterrence strategies – whether it is in the realm of nuclear, space, or cyberspace – to ensure that potential adversaries understand the high price they will incur if our homeland, or its assets around the world, are attacked. One of the most important deterrent strategies is our nuclear triad. All three legs of the triad need to be modernized -- we need to build the Ohio class replacement submarine, procure the long range strike bomber and begin the process to replace our ICBMs. Over the next ten years, this modernization process will cost approximately \$35 billion annually, which is about 3-4% of our current Defense Department budget. Given the importance of our triad, but also acknowledging the fiscal reality, Admiral Haney, how does the Department ensure that this modernization remains a priority?

General Selva, TRANSCOM is the unsung hero of the combatant commands. You are key to every other command receiving the resources it needs, yet you receive little publicity or credit. I especially want to thank you and those in TRANSCOM for their commitment and hard work. Like other commands, TRANSCOM does face a number of daunting issues. First, TRANSCOM has to rely on other agencies and the private sector for a portion of its aircraft.

The Ready Reserve Force (RRF), a group of cargo ships held in readiness by the Maritime Administration, is aging and will need to be modernized over the next decade. I am interested to know if there is a plan and the funds necessary for this modernization. TRANSCOM also works with the private sector through the Civil Reserve Air Fleet, or CRAF program, which has provided as much as 40 percent of the wartime airlift needs. I am interested in hearing how TRANSCOM plans to keep the CRAF program viable after military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan conclude, and the plan to provide needed surge capacity in the future. Also, because it must work with private-sector entities in the transportation and shipping industries to support DOD deployment operations, TRANSCOM also faces a unique set of cyber threats. Last year, the Committee issued a report on certain aspects of TRANSCOM's cyber security situation. General Selva, I would like to hear what steps you have taken to respond to the issues identified in that report.

Admiral Rogers, North Korea and Iran have both executed very destructive attacks on domestic economic targets with the cyber attacks on Sony Corporation and the Sands casino in Las Vegas, respectively. However, we are not currently postured to deter such attacks. I would appreciate your insights on what steps must be taken so that private entities are not left alone to face attacks from nation states. Also, as the cyber threat involves, Cyber Command itself remains a work in progress. It now has about half of its planned cyber mission forces, but lacks adequate training ranges, and the equipment and tools necessary to plan, control, execute, and assess robust military operations in cyberspace. I would like to hear your views on how we can address these shortfalls.

I again want to thank the witnesses and I look forward to your testimony.