



FY10 Defense Appropriations: National Security Space

AIA RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Importance of Long Term Space System Investment Strategy:**

AIA commends the House Appropriations Committee for its interest in developing a long-range strategy for space system investment and including language in H. Rept. 111-230 accompanying H.R. 3326 requiring the Secretary of Defense and Director of National Intelligence to submit a strategy to Congress by March 1, 2010. AIA strongly supports the development of a long-range strategy for space system investment as it would provide critical stability to our nation's space industrial base. Because such a strategy is so important, AIA believes that the DoD and the DNI should be given sufficient time to develop a comprehensive, executable strategy. AIA recommends that the DoD and DNI work together to develop a plan for a long-term space system investment strategy and submit this plan to Congress by March 1, 2010. Decision makers should involve industry in change efforts to ensure changes benefit U.S. security, our economy and industrial base.
- **Multi System Procurement Strategy and Space Industrial Base:**

AIA agrees with H. Rept. 111-230 of H.R. 3326 that multi system procurement strategies should be investigated for space system purchasing. Space system procurement with low production rates, small quantities and long lead times between major programs and program upgrades have contributed to a "win or die" environment for contractors and suppliers. This has forced many space industry suppliers to re-focus on non-space markets to ensure their survival. Current low levels of development and production force the U.S. industry to idle complex and costly production and testing facilities for space systems that need to be kept in place for future programs. AIA recommends that multi system procurement strategies be examined for all space systems – not just satellites – in order to increase the cadence of space system production, thereby providing greater stability to the national security space industrial base and potentially reducing costs.
- **Maintain a Robust Commitment to Space Situational Awareness:**

The February, 2009 collision between an Iridium communications satellite and a defunct Russian Cosmos satellite highlighted the growing problem of space debris and the need to minimize the chances of in-space collisions. In response to an increasingly contested and crowded space environment, the Department of Defense has requested substantial investments in improving space situational awareness (SSA). AIA recommends that the Congress fully support the President's request for SSA programs in order to ensure that the space systems upon which our national security and economy relies continue to operate without disruption.
- **Keep the Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Initiative "Responsive":**

The ORS initiative seeks to provide rapid support to the warfighter and important response capabilities to unforeseen events or unanticipated gaps in space capabilities. Current ORS initiatives require expeditious requirements and acquisition processes in order to assist the military user. It is not clear that language in H. Rept. 111-230 of H.R. 3326 requiring the same full cost and performance accounting provided for strategic space initiatives would allow the expeditious requirements and acquisition processes needed to keep ORS responsive to the warfighter. AIA strongly urges Congressional Committees to continue to support keeping the ORS initiative responsive to the needs of the warfighter and encourages Congress to provide ORS with the necessary funding requested by the President and United States Air Force to support ORS and meet urgent requirements.
- **Science and Technology Funding is Critical:**

Research and development and science and technology investment is especially critical in light of the burgeoning problem of space debris and the aggressive entry into the space-faring community by China, India and potentially others. AIA recommends that Congress support robust investments now in advanced in-space propulsion, space launch, protected wide-band communications, and advanced sensor and antenna technology to meet the challenges as space becomes increasingly contested.