



Committee: House Armed Services Committee
Event: [Speed to Scale: Revitalizing the Defense Industrial Base](#)
Date: March 4, 2026

Executive Summary: On March 4, 2026, the House Armed Services Committee hosted Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment, Michael Duffey, to discuss the American Defense Industrial Base (DIB). Duffey was unable to shed light on either the equity stake process, or the actual status of mineral sourcing. He provided an overview of the missile oriented framework agreements with private contractors. Discussion, although not featured below, also touched on shipbuilding.

Member Toplines:

[Chair Mike Rogers \(R-AL-03\)](#): Rogers expressed his support for Operation Epic Fury and emphasized the need to reinvest in the DIB, noting that stockpiles of critical defense articles have been depleted and manufacturing has eroded, while China’s shipbuilding, for example, now surpasses the U.S. He stressed ending dependency on China for critical minerals and materials and called on industry to invest in production capacity. He raised issues with the consolidation of the solid rocket motor industrial base and the bottlenecks it has created for critical munitions.

[Ranking Member Adam Smith \(D-WA-09\)](#): Smith emphasized interest in learning more about the equity investment stake and sovereign fund processes, noting the value of fair competition, workforce training, and relying on partners and allies.

[Under Secretary Michael Duffey](#): Duffey reiterated the need for a strong DIB, touting the need for manufacturing. He reported framework agreements with Lockheed Martin to triple Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) interceptor production and quadruple Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) interceptor production, expand and accelerate Tomahawk, AMRAAM, and Standard Missile series. The DOD also expanded munitions productions – evidenced by the \$1 billion investment in L3 Harris to expand solid rocket motor production. Duffey highlighted the DOD’s use of the *Defense Production Act* to secure domestic sourcing for gallium, scandium, and germanium and reported that the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) is being streamlined to improve contracting, but is also being reinforced by screening investment through the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS). He emphasized that \$300 million will shore up the National Defense stockpile with minerals like “cobalt and lithium.”

Major Takeaways:

- Chair Rogers asked how the DOD determines when equity investment is necessary and how they are responding to market implications and potential distortions.
 - Duffey referred to equity investment as a “tool... to build resilience” and concentrate capital, thereby incentivizing private development and industry

optimization. Chair Rogers followed up and asked if there were any regulations inhibiting industry's ability to surge production capacity. Duffey did not have an answer at this time.

- Democrats, including Rep. **John Garamendi** (D-CA-08) returned to the topic of oversight of investment. Duffey reiterated his earlier response.
- Ranking Member Smith asked about munitions buildout. Duffey reiterated his opening statement and highlighted the need for F-35 resource funding and industrial capacity.
- Rep. **Joe Wilson** (R-SC-02) asked how DOD is addressing the lack of domestic sourcing. Duffey emphasized the value of long term contracts in creating supply chain stability.
- Rep. **Mark Messmer** (R-IN-08) asked what percentage of critical minerals and energetics still originate from adversaries and/or non-allied sources. Duffey responded that he would report back, but stressed that the team is working to find domestic capability for mining, processing, and magnet production.
- Rep. **Scott DesJarlais** (R-TN-04) asked how the DOD is investing in the solid rocket motor industry and Duffey attested to the value of the L3 deal.
 - Rep. **John McGuire** (R-VA-05) asked how the DOD is expanding capacity and resiliency for solid rocket motors. Duffey replied that the DOD is partnering with several privately funded companies to help them enter the solid rocket motor space. He noted that they are not yet certified.