



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Senator Mark Kelly Joins Senior Military and Executive Branch Leaders at Second Annual National Security Innovation Base Summit**

WASHINGTON, DC –The Ronald Reagan Institute announced Sen. Mark Kelly (D-AZ) will participate in a conversation about space innovation at the second annual National Security Innovation Base (NSIB) Summit, hosted by its Center for Peace Through Strength, on March 20, 2024. Sen. Kelly, a former U.S. Navy combat pilot and NASA astronaut, serves as the Chair of the Senate Armed Services Airland Subcommittee. He will participate at the Summit alongside the following Defense Department innovators and national security thought leaders:

- Hon. **Doug Bush**, Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, United States Army
- Gen. **Michael Guetlein**, Vice Chief of Space Operations, United States Space Force
- Dr. **Jason Rathje**, Director, Office of Strategic Capital
- Dr. **Christopher Scolese**, Director of the National Reconnaissance Office
- Gen. **James Slife**, Vice Chief of Staff, United States Air Force
- Hon. **Mac Thornberry**, Former Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee
- Vice Adm. **Frank Whitworth**, Director, National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

These speakers join previously-announced NSIB Summit speakers, including Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks, Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering Heidi Shyu, Rep. Adam Smith, Rep. Rob Wittman, and Sen. Todd Young.

The NSIB Summit will feature in-person panels and discussions with Members of Congress, executive branch officials, innovative industry and technology companies, investors, national security experts, and other thought leaders.

At the Summit, the Reagan Institute will release its second NSIB Report Card, which evaluates the health, effectiveness, and resilience of the national security innovation ecosystem. In 2023, this first-of-its-kind assessment delivered harsh grades, particularly when it came to U.S. government customer clarity and the failure to provide stable, sufficient funding to acquire and scale critical technology solutions.

Media can request credentials for the Summit [here](#).

**Who:** Members of Congress, senior policymakers, business leaders, and national security innovators

**What:** Reagan Institute National Security Innovation Base Summit

**When:** March 20, 2024

**Where:** Ronald Reagan Institute  
850 16th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

**About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:**

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with continuing his legacy and advancing his principles – limited government, individual liberty, economic opportunity, freedom and democracy, peace through strength, and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion, the award-winning Reagan Leadership Academy, and the Reagan Institute, which carries out the Foundation’s mission in Washington, D.C. The Reagan Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America’s 40th President and his First Lady. More information is available at [www.reaganfoundation.org](http://www.reaganfoundation.org).