



**National Reconnaissance Office**  
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### **NRO honors two new Pioneers of National Reconnaissance**

CHANTILLY, Va. – The National Reconnaissance Office honored Charles "Chuck" Alte and Gary B. Hartshorn as the 2023 Pioneers of National Reconnaissance on Tuesday, June 25. The Pioneer Recognition Program is the NRO's highest honor, celebrating people who made significant, lasting contributions to the field of overhead reconnaissance.

“This is a celebration of not just NRO's achievements, but those of the Intelligence Community's partners across the reconnaissance discipline, including the two extraordinary Pioneers who are recognized this year,” said Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Stacey Dixon, who delivered the ceremony's keynote address. “The amazing accomplishments of both Pioneers and the extraordinary work they continue to do to advance the reconnaissance discipline are inspiration for us all.”

Alte was recognized for more than 50 years of leadership integrating and advancing sensor systems to make satellites more useful, adaptable, and capable. Hartshorn was honored for his work advancing space-based sensor technology. These innovations have enhanced the NRO's mission of using space-based intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance to secure and expand our nation's intelligence advantage.

Dr. Chris Scolese, director of the NRO, presented the honorees with medallions and citations that will also be displayed in the NRO's Pioneer Hall.

“Charles Alte and Gary Hartshorn are trailblazers and risk-takers.” Dr. Scolese said. “They embody the NRO motto of ‘Above and Beyond,’ using their innovation and imagination to push past existing boundaries and open a new world of possibilities.”

Learn more about the NRO Pioneers of National Reconnaissance at [NRO.gov](https://www.nro.gov).

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*The NRO develops, acquires, launches, and operates the world's best intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance satellites to secure and expand America's advantage in space. We are building a diversified and resilient architecture of spacecraft and ground systems designed to meet the challenges of a changing space environment by accelerating innovation and leveraging strategic partnerships, backed by a diverse and highly skilled*



*workforce. At NRO, we see it, hear it, and sense it so our nation's warfighters and policymakers have decision advantage amid increasing global competition.*

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