



UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

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Department of Defense
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

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MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIR, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference - Defense Science Board Task Force on Digital Engineering Capability to Automate Testing and Evaluation

Section 231(f) of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Public Law 116-92, signed by the President on December 20, 2019, directs the Defense Science Board (DSB) to complete an independent assessment of the progress made by the Secretary of Defense in implementing sections 231(a) through (c) of the FY 2020 NDAA. Section 231(f) further indicates the results of the DSB assessment will be provided to the Congressional Defense Committees. I am tasking the DSB to complete an independent assessment of the progress made by the Department of Defense (DoD) in implementing sections 231(a) through (c) of the FY 2020 NDAA (Attached). In order to facilitate the completion of this study, I am establishing the Defense Science Board Task Force on Digital Engineering Capability to Automate Testing and Evaluation ("the Task Force") to assist the DSB.

The study findings, observations, and recommendations of the Task Force will be presented to the full DSB for its thorough, open discussion and deliberation at a properly noticed and public meeting subject to Government in the Sunshine Act requirements. The DSB will provide its findings and recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) as the sponsor of the DSB and to the congressional defense committees. The USD(R&E) will serve as the DoD decision-maker for the matter under consideration and will as appropriate take into consideration other stakeholders identified by the study's findings and recommendations. The nominal start date of the study period will be within 30 days of the initial appointment of its members. In no event will the duration of the study exceed 24 months from the start date.

The Task Force members are granted access to those DoD officials and data necessary for the appropriate conduct of their studies. As such, the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Component Heads are requested to cooperate and promptly facilitate requests by DSB staff regarding access to relevant personnel and information deemed necessary, as directed by paragraphs 5.1.8. and 5.3.4. of DoD Instruction 5105.04, "Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committee Management Program," and in conformance with applicable security classifications.

The DSB and the Task Force will operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Title 5 United States Code (U.S.C.), Appendix), the Government in the Sunshine Act (Title 5, U.S.C. § 552b), and other applicable federal statutes, regulations, and policy. Individual DSB and Task Force members, as well as the

Task Force as a whole, do not have the authority to make decisions or recommendations on behalf of the DSB nor report directly to any Federal representative. The members of the Task Force and the DSB are subject to certain Federal ethics laws governing conflicts of interest, including 18 U.S.C. § 208, and the Standards of Ethical Conduct regulations in 5 Code of Federal Regulations Part 2635.

Heidi Shyu