



RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE Feb 24, 2025

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

CLEARED
For Open Publication

Department of Defense
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

FEB 12 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIR, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference – Defense Science Board Study on Designation of Certain Facilities on Kwajalein Atoll as a Major Range and Test Facility Base

Section 245 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2025 requires the Defense Science Board (DSB) to assess the feasibility and advisability of designating the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site and United States Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll as facilities and resources comprising the Major Range and Test Facility Base¹, including with respect to the availability and mission capability of such test site and garrison.

I am directing the Defense Science Board (DSB) to conduct a study on the Designation of Certain Facilities on Kwajalein Atoll as a Major Range and Test Facility Base (“the Study”). The study conducted by the DSB will focus on the following areas, as designated in the NDAA:

- The history and rationale for the split funding of the United States facilities and capabilities on Kwajalein Atoll between an Army Garrison and a Major Range and Test Facility Base and whether those objectives have been achieved, and if not, an explanation of the reasons those objectives have not been achieved;
- The status of the garrison infrastructure and operations;
- The status of the test asset operability, usage, and maintainability;
- The interrelationship between garrison infrastructure and test asset operability;
- The status of the supported or supporting relationship between United States Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll, Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site, and the Lincoln Laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the long-term outlook for this partnership;
- The role of the Kwajalein Atoll in supporting current and future missions of the Department of Defense (DoD);
- Such other matters as the Under Secretary or the DSB consider appropriate.

The DSB’s findings, observations, and recommendations will be thoroughly discussed and deliberated on in a properly noticed and public meeting, unless it must be closed in accordance with one or more of the exemptions found in subsection 552b(c) of title 5, U.S. Code. The DSB

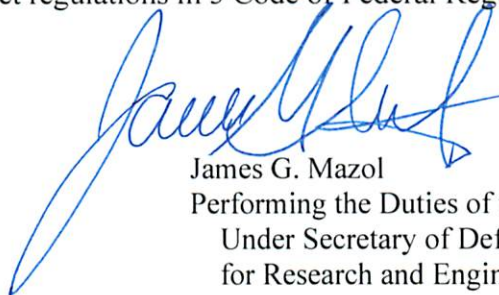
¹ See 10 U.S. Code § 4173 - Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center

will provide its findings and recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering as the Sponsor of the DSB. The nominal start date of the study period will be within 30 days of the signing of the Study Terms of Reference (ToR), and the 2025 NDAA requires completion of the Study not later than May 15, 2025.

In support of this ToR and the work conducted in response to it, the DSB has my full support to meet with Department leaders. The DSB staff, on behalf of the DSB, may request the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the DoD component heads to timely furnish any requested information, assistance, or access to personnel to the DSB. All requests shall be consistent with applicable laws, applicable security classifications, DoD Instruction 5105.04 — “Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committee Management Program,” and this ToR. As special government employee members of a DoD federal advisory committee, DSB members will not be given any access to DoD networks, to include DoD email systems.

Once material is provided to the DSB, it becomes a permanent part of the DSB’s records. All data/information provided is subject to public inspection unless the originating component office properly marks the data/information with the appropriate classification and the exemption categories found in section 552(b) of title 5, U.S. Code before the data/information is released to the DSB. The DSB has physical storage capability and electronic storage and communications capability on both unclassified and classified networks to support receipt of material up to the TS//SCI level.

The DSB will operate in conformity with and pursuant to the DSB charter, chapter 10 of title 5, U.S.; Code, subsection 552b(c) of title 5, U.S. Code; and other applicable federal statutes, regulations, and policy. Individual DSB members do not have the authority to make decisions or provide 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, including section 208 of title 18, U.S. Code, governing conflicts of interest, and the Standards of Ethical Conduct regulations in 5 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 2635.



James G. Mazol
Performing the Duties of the
Under Secretary of Defense
for Research and Engineering