



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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POLICY

MAR 23 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS

SUBJECT: Final Report of the Defense Science Board Task Force 2008 Summer Study
on Capability Surprise, Volume II

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Policy appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Report of the Defense Science Board 2008 Summer Study on Capability Surprise (Volume II: Supporting Papers). There are many areas of common ground between this report's recommendations and policy goals toward which we are working.

Reducing the potential of capability surprise and enhancing our preparedness to manage surprise should it occur are essential to achieving our security objectives. The 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review recognizes the multiplicity of threats and directs, among other things, greater emphasis on efforts to counter adversary threats in space, cyberspace, and a host of anti-access operations. A specific example of this increased emphasis is the establishment of USCYBERCOM. This headquarters was established to coordinate all DoD cyberspace operational efforts and address many of the threats relating to cyberspace described in the report.

We agree with the report that many space, cyberspace, nuclear, and technological challenges remain. The Department is making steady progress in addressing these challenges as highlighted in the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review. I note too that the Defense Science Board's call for steps to enhance DoD's ability to rapidly field new capabilities is in line with steps that AT&L is already taking, in response to the Secretary's guidance.

We look forward to working with the Defense Science Board in the future to ensure that our work remains focused on the most salient challenges to U.S. national security.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kathleen Hicks", is positioned above the typed name.

Kathleen Hicks
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense
Strategy, Plans and Forces

