



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

MAY 01 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference -- Defense Science Board Task Force on the Department of Defense Policies and Procedures for the Acquisition of Information Technology

In accordance with section 887 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2008 (PL 106-65), you are requested to carry out a review of Department of Defense policies and procedures for the acquisition of information technology.

The purpose of the Task Force will be to determine whether existing acquisition policies and processes provide the foundation necessary for an effective acquisition model and to identify recommended improvements to enhance the Department's approach to information technology acquisition.

The matters addressed by the review shall include the following:

- (1) Department of Defense policies and procedures for acquiring information technology, to include national security systems, major automated information systems and business information systems, and other information technology.
- (2) The roles and responsibilities in implementing such policies and procedures of:
 - (a) The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics;
 - (b) Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense;
 - (c) The Director of the Business Transformation Agency;
 - (d) The Service Acquisition Executives;
 - (e) The Chief Information Officers of the Military Departments;
 - (f) Defense Agency acquisition officials;
 - (g) The Information Officers of the Defense Agencies, and;
 - (h) The Director of Operational Test and Evaluation and the heads of the operational test organizations of the military departments and the Defense Agencies.
- (3) The application of such policies and procedures to information technologies that are an integral part of critical weapons or weapons systems.



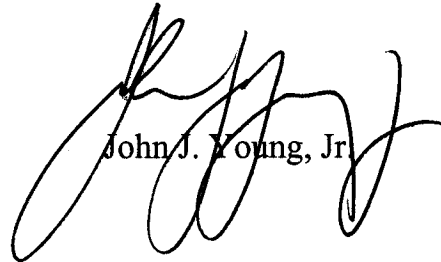
- (4) The requirements of subtitle III of title 40, United States Code, and chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, regarding performance-based and results-based management, capital planning, and investment control in the acquisition of information technology.
- (5) Department of Defense policies and procedures for maximizing the usage of commercial information technology while ensuring the security of the microelectronics, software, and networks of the Department.
- (6) The suitability of Department of Defense acquisition regulations, including Department of Defense Directive 5000.1, Department of Defense Instruction 5000.2, and the accompanying milestones, to the acquisition of information technology systems.
- (7) The adequacy and transparency of metrics used by the Department of Defense for the acquisition of information technology systems.
- (8) The effectiveness of existing statutory and regulatory reporting requirements for the acquisition of information technology systems.
- (9) The adequacy of operational and development test resources (including infrastructure and personnel), policies, and procedures to ensure appropriate testing of information technology systems both during development and before operational use.
- (10) The appropriate policies and procedures for technology assessment, development, and operational testing for purposes of the adoption of commercial technologies into information technology systems.

A report will be submitted to the Secretary of Defense and Congress not later than January 28, 2009.

Where relevant, the Task Force should draw upon previous DSB reports to include the 2006 Summer Study on Information Management for Net Centric Operations, the Task Force reports of Mission Impact of Foreign Influence on DoD Software, and High Performance Microchip Supply.

The study will be sponsored by me as the USD(AT&L) and the ASD(NII). Dr. Ron Kerber and Mr. Vince Vitto will serve as the Task Force Chairpersons. Mr. Skip Hawthorne, OUSD(AT&L) will serve as the co- Executive Secretary and LTC Karen Walters, USA, will serve as the DSB representative.

The Task Force will operate in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 92-463, the "Federal Advisory Committee Act," and DoD Directive 5105.4, the "DoD Federal Advisory Committee Management Program." It is not anticipated that this Task Force will need to go into any "particular matters" within the meaning of section 208 of title 18, U.S. Code, nor will it cause any member to be placed in the position of acting as a procurement official.



John J. Young, Jr.