



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

OCT 09 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference – Defense Science Board Task Force on Next-Generation Unmanned Undersea Systems

Our military forces are facing serious challenges from rapidly advancing threat capabilities and employment of anti-access/area-denial (A2AD) strategies. In heavily denied A2AD environments, where our traditional operational and warfighting effectiveness is challenged in the air, on land and on the ocean's surface, the United States currently retains an advantage undersea. This undersea advantage should be exploited as a means of potentially offsetting the severe warfighting challenges in other domains.

The Defense Science Board Task Force on Next-Generation Unmanned Undersea Systems should review the nation's undersea warfare (USW) capabilities. The task force should explore roles and missions for candidate unmanned undersea systems with emphasis on leveraging the advantages in the undersea domain to disrupt adversary strategies both undersea and in other domains, focusing on technical capabilities and operational concepts that could result in low-cost, rapidly developed systems that enable cost-imposing strategies. The task force should review existing civil and military undersea systems and technology, and recommend approaches that could facilitate rapid experimentation and operational demonstration. In particular, the task force should consider how to deploy modest initial capabilities that are developed with a path for capability evolution over time as individual subsystem technologies mature.

I will sponsor the study. Dr. Ralph D. Semmel, Ph.D. and Mr. James D. Shields will serve as Co-chairmen of the study. CAPT J. Carl Hartsfield, USN will serve as Executive Secretary. CAPT James CoBell, USN will serve as the DSB Secretariat Representative.

The study will operate in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 92-463, the "Federal Advisory Committee Act" and DoD Directive 5105.04, the DoD Federal Advisory Committee Management Program." It is not anticipated that this study will need to go into any "particular matters" within the meaning of title 18, United States Code, section 208, nor will it cause any member to be placed in the position of action as a procurement official.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Kendall", is positioned above the printed name.

Frank Kendall