



RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference - Defense Science Board 2018 Summer Study on Strategic Surprise


The objective of the 2018 Defense Science Board (DSB) Summer Study is to consider what potential technical capabilities may not be sufficiently acted upon by the Department of Defense (DoD) in the decade to come, that will lead to U.S. regrets in 2028 and, in broad terms, what those actions might be.

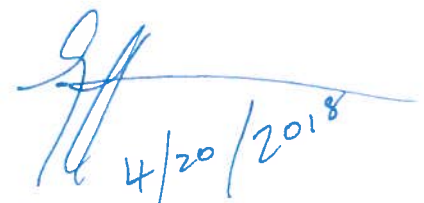
Considerations for each recommended emerging technical capability should include: maturation of science and technology; the development of new weapons and weapon concepts (including weapons of mass destruction); the emergence of new operational concepts and rules of engagement; different potential adversaries and different kinds of potential adversaries; changing alliances among potential adversaries and changing relationships between the United States and its allies; broad global trends such as demographic shifts, geopolitical changes, resource constraints or climate change; evolving priorities for national security objectives; and, U.S. foreign policy goals.

This summer study will be sponsored by me as the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)). I am authorized to act upon the advice and recommendations of the DSB. The current DSB Chairman, Dr. Craig Fields, and Vice-Chairman, Dr. Eric Evans, will serve as co-chairmen of this board-level study. Mr. Edward Gliot, acting Executive Director, will serve as the Executive Secretary and DSB Secretariat Representative.

The study members are granted access to those DoD officials and data necessary for the appropriate conduct of their study. The USD(R&E) will serve as the DoD decision-maker for the matter under consideration and will coordinate decision-making as appropriate with other stakeholders identified by the study's findings and recommendations.

The study will operate in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the "Federal Advisory Committee Act," and DoD Directive 5105.04, "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.


Michael D. Griffin


4/20/2018