MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DIRECTOR, COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Long Range Research and Development Plan (LRRDP) Direction and Tasking

I am tasking the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering (DASD(SE)) to lead the development of the LRRDP. The LRRDP shall identify high-payoff enabling technology investments that could provide an opportunity to shape key future US materiel investments, offer opportunities to shape the trajectory of future competition for technical superiority, and will focus on technology that can be moved into development programs within the next five years. The LRRDP is loosely modeled after a similar effort that was conducted in the 1970s. That effort led to the maturation of the suite of capabilities the United States relies upon today. The LRRDP will be completed in time to allow inputs to the FY17 budget submission.

The effort will be organized into five core working groups and an integration group. The five core working groups are the Space Technology Working Group, the Undersea Technology Working Group, the Air Dominance and Strike Technology Working Group, the Air and Missile Defense Technology Working Group, and the Technology-Driven Working Group. The Integration Working Group will oversee, coordinate, and integrate the five core working groups and report to the USD(AT&L). The Integration Working Group may create additional working groups as required. The LRRDP will be overseen by a steering group that I will chair. Other members of the steering group will be the Assistance Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, and the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. The steering group will convene a scenario and implications team that will provide a framework for the LRRDP’s analysis effort.

Each working group will be comprised of a small set of technical experts drawn from across the Department, working collaboratively to meet the deliverables required under this
tasking. This effort is of the highest priority and requires full and immediate support from across the Department.

The LRRDP will solicit inputs from across industry and academia. LRRDP working groups will assess these inputs and consult with experts inside and outside government to identify technology opportunities that offer strategic advantage.

Frank Kendall