



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

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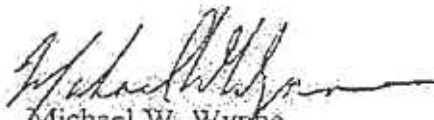
MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHIEF OF STAFF, AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, ARMY
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
COMMANDER, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

SUBJECT: Joint Vertical Aircraft Task Force

As the Joint Staff concludes the PDM study of Non-Fixed Wing Aviation (NFWA), I see a continuing need to focus acquisition and technology efforts on manned, vertical aviation. Planning and funding for vertical aircraft science and technology (S&T) investment, infrastructure, research and development (R&D), and procurement do not adequately reflect the warfighters' reliance on these assets. Consequently, I am establishing the Joint Vertical Aircraft Task Force to define a joint, integrated, and effective path forward, under the oversight of Dr. Glenn F. Lamartin, Director, Defense Systems.

With participation by the Services, Special Operations Command, and others, this task force will develop a roadmap to include future joint and Service activities. The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Roadmap is a good example of how such a roadmap can address Department needs. The task force will recommend courses of action in S&T, infrastructure, R&D, and procurement that will affect FY05 and FY06 budget deliberations -- so its duties will last about 15 months.

Your support and active participation in preparing the roadmap is critical. It is important to represent both operational and acquisition perspectives on the task force. To that end I request that you provide a representative to participate full-time. Please provide a person with appropriate experience and knowledge of your organization's program and planning no later than July 25, 2003. My points of contact are Mr. Michael Walsh (703-697-0638; Michael.Walsh@osd.mil), and Col. Frank Boynton (703-697-2275; Frank.Boynton@osd.mil).


Michael W. Wynne
Acting

