

Protecting The Homeland

***Report of the
Defense Science Board Task Force***

on

**UNCONVENTIONAL NUCLEAR
WARFARE DEFENSE**

***2000 Summer Study
Volume III***



July 2001

**Office of the Under Secretary of Defense
For Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
Washington, D.C. 20301-3140**

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DEFENSE SCIENCE
BOARD

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3140 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3140

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY & LOGISTICS)

SUBJECT: Defense Science Board Task Force Report on Unconventional Nuclear Warfare
Defense

I am forwarding the final report of the DSB Task Force on Unconventional Nuclear Warfare Defense. This study, chaired by Dr. Roger Hagengruber, was established to review and evaluate DoD's current state of detection, identification, response, and prevention to terrorist subnational, or other unconventional nuclear attacks to the U.S.

The Task Force found that a substantial base of capabilities exists within the DoD and the Department of Energy to handle the Unconventional Nuclear Threat (UNT) but these resources are not optimized. The Task Force has outlined a strategy for improving the DoD's ability to defend against and better deter the changing UNT. The strategy presented here does not require significant increases in funding; however, it will require adjustments within existing programs for intelligence collection, research and development for advanced nuclear material detection, nuclear forensics, and nuclear security programs with the Former Soviet Union. The recommendations of the Task Force form the basis for a coherent strategy and would not only increase military security, but also provide for broader protection to the homeland.

I endorse all the recommendations and propose you review the Chairman's letter and final report.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Schneider, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Schneider, Jr.
Chairman



DEFENSE SCIENCE
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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3140 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3140

Dr. William Schneider Jr.
Chairman, Defense Science Board
3140 Defense Pentagon, Room 3D865
Washington, D.C. 20301-3140

Dear Dr. Schneider:

Subject: Final Report of the Defense Science Board -- Task Force on Unconventional Nuclear Warfare Defense.

Attached you will find the report of the Defense Science Board Task Force on Unconventional Nuclear Warfare Defense.

The Task Force Terms-of-Reference asked the Task Force to:

- 1) Determine the adequacy of the DoD's current ability to support detection, identification, response, and prevention of unconventional nuclear attack.
- 2) Determine appropriate role(s) and needed capabilities (with a specific emphasis on technical capabilities) for the DoD in support of homeland defense against unconventional nuclear attacks.

In response to (1) we found that there is a substantial existing framework of capabilities, process, and experienced people within the DoD and DOE for dealing with the unconventional nuclear threat. However, these capabilities and activities are not optimized for the emerging unconventional nuclear threat nor are they part of a coherent strategy. In response to (2) we believe the appropriate DoD role is to focus on protection of key military and national security facilities. Protection of these assets fall within the broad responsibility of the DoD.

Our principal recommendation is the deployment of protection systems built from existing technologies to key military facilities. Such systems would also provide a capability to deploy to a wider variety of facilities upon warning. Additional supporting recommendations can be found in the body of the attached report. These recommendations form the basis of a coherent strategy that will make possible the further extension of protection to a broader range of homeland assets at a later date.

Mr. William Schneider Jr.

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The task force would like to express its appreciation to the members and government advisors of the task force and for the extensive support of the OSD staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. Hagenruber". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Roger I. Hagenruber
Task Force Chair

I.C:9815:ggh

Attachment:
Report of the Defense Science Board Task Force on
Unconventional Nuclear Warfare Defense.

