

HOMELAND DEFENSE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 2600 DEFENSE PENTAGON

2600 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2600

ACTION MEMO

DepSecDef (1): (1)

USD(P) (1) (1): (1)

1-04/007919-HD

Paul Buttle FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Homeland Defense) 2 0 2004

SUBJECT: Defense Against Smuggled Nuclear Weapons

- Following your June 9,2004 meeting with the Defense Science Board members, Doug Feith asked that I prepare the attached memorandum from you to Tom Ridge.
- The memo proposed that:
 - Dr. Rich Wagner of the DSB Task Force on *Defense from Clandestine Nuclear Weapon* should brief the Department of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Council.
 - DHS should be designated the lead federal agency for efforts to defend the US from smuggled nuclear weapons, with DoD designated as the executive agent to manage the research and development effort.

RECOMMENDATION: Sign the memo at TAB A, or use the memorandum as talking points for a telephone call to Secretary Ridge.

COORDINATION: TAB B

Attachment As stated

Prepared by: COL Jackson, OASD(HD), 697-5142

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COORDINATION SHEET

SecDef Memo to SecHLS Defense from Smuggled Nuclear Weapons

Organization	Representative	Date
Joint Staff	concur, VADM Keating, Director JS	18 June 2004
ATSD (NCB)	concur, Dr. Dale Klein, ATSD(NCB)	14 June 2004
General Counsel	concur w/edits, Co Allen, DGC (IA)	14 June 2004
Comptroller	concur w/comment, Lawrence Lanzillot	ta23 June 2004
Defense Science Board	concur, Dr. Schneider (per LTC Dolgoff)	14 June 2004





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JUL 22 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBJECT: Defense from Smuggled Nuclear Weapons

During 2002-2003, the Defense Science Board (DSB) chartered a task force to study *Defense Against Clandestine Nuclear Attack*, which highlighted the potential risks that smuggled nuclear weapons create for US national security.

Recently, I met with DSB task force participants: Dr. Bill Schneider, Dr. Fred Ikle and Dr. Richard Wagner. They believe that an expedited national effort to advance research and development in remote radiological sensing is important to address this risk. You may want to invite Dr. Wagner and the other task force members to brief you on their findings and recommendations.

I think a partnership between our departments would improve our capabilities in this area. This could include a coordinated effort for **a** research and development program. The Department of Homeland Security could lead this effort, with the Department of Defense acting as the executive agent to manage the research and development in the supporting technologies.

I would be interested in your thoughts.





