



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

JUL 15 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Establishment of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office

On November 23, 2021, I directed the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security (USD(I&S)) to establish the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group (AOIMSG) to synchronize efforts across the Department of Defense (DoD) and with other Federal departments and agencies to detect, identify, and attribute objects of interest in special use airspace. I also established the Airborne Object Identification Management Executive Council (AOIMEXEC) to provide oversight and direction to the AOIMSG.

Prior to the establishment of the AOIMSG, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 was enacted with a provision that requires the Secretary of Defense to establish an office, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), with responsibilities that include those that were to be assigned to the AOIMSG. Therefore, following coordination with the DNI, I hereby approve the following amendments to my original direction in Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Establishment of the Airborne Object Identification and Management Group," November 23, 2021, to meet the DoD requirements in section 1683 of the NDAA for FY 2022:

- The All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) will be established to carry out the duties that were to be fulfilled by the AOIMSG. The mission of the AARO will be to "synchronize efforts across the Department and with other Federal departments and agencies to detect, identify, and attribute objects of interest in, on, or near military installations, operating areas, training areas, special use airspace, and other areas of interest, and, as necessary, to mitigate any associated threats to safety of operations and national security." This includes anomalous, unidentified space, airborne, submerged, and transmedium objects.
- The AOIMEXEC is renamed the AARO Executive Council (AAROEXEC). The mission of the AAROEXEC will be to provide oversight and direction to the AARO.
- I direct the USD(I&S) to establish the AARO, in coordination with the Director of Administration and Management. Consistent with section 1683 of the NDAA for FY 2022, I also direct the Secretary of the Navy to disestablish the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) no later than the date the AARO is established, and to support the orderly transition of the UAPTF, including the transfer of any data, analysis, or other relevant material, to the AARO.



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The AARO will serve as the authoritative office of the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) and UAP-related activities for the DoD. The AARO is the DoD focal point for all UAP and UAP-related activities and may represent the Department for such activities to the interagency, Congress, media, and public, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs and Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. Any DoD Component acting on behalf of the UAPTF, or who has data, analysis, contracts, or other material related to UAP, will immediately synchronize their efforts with the AARO.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith H. Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "H".

cc:
Director of National Intelligence