INFO MEMO

U-10-2552/CE

FOR: UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS

FROM: Ronald L. Burgess, Jr., Lieutenant General, USA, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: (U) Advanced Aerospace Threat and Identification Program

(U//~~FOUO~~) The Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program was first sponsored in the *Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Defense Supplemental Appropriation Act* by Senators Reid and Inouye with a $10 million add. The purpose of this congressional add was to investigate foreign advanced aerospace weapon threats from the present out to the next 40 years and to build an infrastructure to house a center of expertise on advanced aerospace technologies. The potential threat posed by unconventional or "leap" aerospace vehicles that could pose national security implications for the United States was a specific area of interest.

(U//~~FOUO~~) The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) published a request for proposal (RFP). The RFP identified twelve technical areas to be studied: lift, propulsion; control; armament; signatures reduction; materials; configuration; power generation; temporal translation; human effects; human interface; and technology integration. DIA awarded a contract to the Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies LLC (BAASS), the only bid, headquartered in North Las Vegas, Nevada.

(U//~~FOUO~~) BAASS identified and worked with academics and scientists to produce 26 technical reports by June, 2009. All of these reports were delivered to DIA by September, 2009. A list of these first 26 technical reports is enclosure 1. One of the 26 reports, titled *Advanced Space Propulsion Based on Vacuum (Spacetime Metric) Engineering* was published in March, 2010. It is included as enclosure 2 and is provided as an example of the reports.

(U) The *FY 2010 Defense Appropriations Act* included a $12 million add for the project. Twelve additional reports were produced and delivered. They are also included in enclosure 1.

(U//~~FOUO~~) On June 24, 2009, Senator Reid sent a letter to Deputy Secretary of Defense Lynn requesting the Department of Defense establish an alternate compensatory control measure (ACCM) or sensitive access program (SAP) for this project. In November, 2009, at the request of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, DIA completed a review of the program. The Agency determined that, based on classification levels of current and projected deliverables, insufficient grounds existed to classify the program, invoke an ACCM, or establish a restricted SAP.

(U//~~FOUO~~) In November, 2009, Deputy Secretary of Defense Lynn and I met with Senator Reid to discuss this program. At that time, we determined the reports were of limited value to DIA. However, I did suggest they could be of merit to other organizations and, that upon the completion of the DIA contract; the project could be transitioned to another agency or component better suited to oversee the project.

2 enclosures: a/s

(U) Prepared by: 1843(a)(3), Office of Congressional and Public Affairs, 1843(a)(3)
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