



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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INTELLIGENCE  
AND SECURITY

**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**  
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JUL 20 2022

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

**SUBJECT:** Establishment, Resourcing, and Leadership of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office

**References:** (a) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Establishment of the Airborne Object Identification and Management Group," November 23, 2021  
(b) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Establishment of the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO)," July 15, 2022

Pursuant to references (a) and (b), I establish the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office (AARO) within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security. The AARO will synchronize efforts across the Department and with other U.S. 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 AARO will leverage Department of Defense capabilities and synchronize with the Intelligence Community to tackle the unique challenges posed by the presence of anomalous objects across all domains. I will manage the processes to enable the AARO Executive Council to provide oversight and direction to the AARO along the following primary lines of effort:

1. Surveillance, Collection and Reporting
2. System Capabilities and Design
3. Intelligence Operations and Analysis
4. Mitigation and Defeat
5. Governance
6. Science and Technology

My office will provide necessary administrative support to the AARO, including facilities management, budget, contracting, human resources, security, congressional affairs, and information technology. My office will also advocate for resources to support the operation of the AARO and the execution of the AARO mission across the Future Years Defense Plan.

During the transition from the Navy UAP Task Force to the AARO, I expect the DoD components to continue to meet their responsibilities for timely reporting of UAP, as they have done to this point. We will provide additional implementation guidance as we move forward with the AARO establishment, and we look forward to working with the DoD to streamline reporting processes and procedures.