MEMO TO: Information Analysis Center (IAC) Program Customers and Industry Partners

SUBJECT: Sequestration Impacts to Information Analysis Center (IAC) Operations

For over 65 years, the Department of Defense’s Information Analysis Centers (IACs) have provided an essential resource to affordably provide data and analysis in support of the need for technical information supporting current operations through basic research. The IACs allow the Department to reduce duplication, and build on previous research, development and other technical needs. Such a capability is what former Secretary Panetta identified as a key element to our defense strategy, in the context of the severe and rigid nature of sequestration, as defined in the Budget Control Act of 2011.

In this time of budgetary uncertainty, the importance of DoD’s IACs is actually enhanced. IACs serve as a proven resource for maximizing the value of each dollar the Department spends. Under sequestration, the IACs will continue to operate, providing an efficient mechanism for the Department to continue its mission under the severe constraints of sequestration. However, sequestration will have impacts across the IAC Program. These impacts are driven both by the constrained resources of our customers, and by the expected furloughs of the IAC government support team. These furloughs will impact government civilian members of the IAC team at the highest levels, from our senior leaders and program managers to the support staff working day-to-day actions.

Delayed funding and uncertainty regarding requirements on the part of our customers impacts our ability to resource our support teams to match workload. If IAC customers experience delays in funding or approving requirements, this delays the IAC team’s ability to respond; consequently, workload that is normally spread throughout a 12-month period will be compressed into the last few months of the fiscal year. Furthermore, the potential that customers will change or eliminate requirements late in the process can further reduce the effectiveness of our teams. To help mitigate these risks, we are maintaining close coordination with our customers to monitor the evolving and uncertain nature of the work, and adjust resources accordingly.

The work of placing requirements and funding on contract depends heavily on our world-class personnel on our contracting, finance, and other support teams. Any furloughs will certainly slow the processing of new IAC tasks, as well as incremental funding of existing tasks. In FY 2012, the IAC teams completed 3,300 contract actions and 6,000 funding transactions, obligating over $1.8 billion to support more than 800 on-going technical area tasks (TATs) and 150 new TATs. This work supports our warfighters through the range of Science and
Technology areas, reaching thousands of Subject Matter Experts performing research and analysis work at over a dozen companies in the US and deployed locations around the world.

In previous years, the IAC teams have had the flexibility to respond to increased end-of-fiscal-year demand by working overtime. Under sequestration, furloughs will both reduce normal working hours from 40 to 32 hours per week, and will eliminate the overtime that our contracting, finance, and other staff work during the final months of the Fiscal Year. What does this mean? The impact of furloughs will significantly reduce our capacity, especially in responding to end-of-year requirements. We expect furloughs to impact the IAC contracting workforce by early May.

We therefore request that, where possible, you submit requests for new TATs and incremental funding on current TATs now. Where this is not possible, we encourage you to submit as early as you are able. We will later disseminate revised deadlines for new TATs and incremental funding, and will keep you all informed of any updates and further impacts as we progress. The IAC contracting and support teams will work with your organizations to assess mission impact and criticality of funding and contract actions; we will prioritize our support efforts in order to minimize harm to force readiness, with particular attention to ensuring support to deployed personnel.

Thank you for your understanding and continued partnership. The IACs remain a viable and valuable resource for the Department. We will continue to keep you informed, and work to mitigate the detrimental impacts of sequestration.

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