OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
6000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-6000

COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, AND INTELLIGENCE

September 22, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR PRINCIPAL STAFF ASSISTANTS, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS, JOINT STAFF
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
U.S. ARMY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
DEPARTMENT OF NAVY, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
U.S. NAVY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
U.S. AIR FORCE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
U.S. MARINE CORPS CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICERS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT STAFF
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: Global Information Grid

Reference: ASD(C3I) Memo, 25 Nov 98, Global Networked Information Enterprise - Developing the Foundation for the Future

On December 8, 1998 we began an effort to develop policies for the DoD's and Intelligence Community's Information Technology activities. Over the last nine months the Global Networked Information Enterprise (GNIE) initiative has made great strides thanks to the thrust area leaders and the hundreds of representatives from the DoD and Intelligence Community. Most notably, I thank all of your personnel who have participated in the development of forward looking policies that address governance, resourcing, technology, networks, network management, interoperability, information management, information dissemination management, information assurance, and enterprise computing. As a community we have met and discussed the policies, their implications and their implementation. These policies are moving through the coordination cycle and I will issue them as CIO Guidance and Policy Memorandum as soon as final coordination is completed.

To highlight the fact that we are moving toward implementing an enterprise solution for the DoD and IC, I have agreed to change the name to align with the related Joint Staff term for the Capstone Requirements Document under development. This enterprise solution is called the "Global Information Grid (GIG)". This term is defines the GIG as follows:

"The globally interconnected, end-to-end set of information capabilities, associated processes and personnel for collecting, processing, storing, disseminating and managing information on demand to warfighters, policy makers, and support personnel. The GIG includes all owned and leased communications and computing systems and services, software (including applications), data, security services and other associated services necessary to achieve Information Superiority. It also includes National Security Systems as defined in section 5142 of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996. The GIG supports all Department of Defense, National Security, and related Intelligence Community missions and functions (strategic, operational, tactical and business), in war and in peace. The GIG provides capabilities from all operating locations (bases, posts, camps, stations, facilities, mobile platforms and deployed sites). The GIG provides interfaces to coalition, allied, and non-DoD users and systems."

I look forward to your support as we implement the GIG and start to make Information Superiority a reality in support of Joint Vision 2010 and the Director of Central Intelligence's Strategic Intent.

Arthur L. Money
Senior Civilian Official