



## NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Cutler, 202/586-7371

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## Brigadier General (Sel.) Ronald J. Haeckel Appointed To NNSA Defense Programs Post

Brigadier General (Sel.) Ronald J. Haeckel has been appointed Principal Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), effective today. In this position Brig. Gen. (Sel.) Haeckel will be responsible for helping to ensure a secure and reliable stockpile of nuclear weapons and associated materials, capabilities, and technologies in a safe, environmentally sound, and cost-effective manner.

In announcing the selection, NNSA Administrator John Gordon said, "Ron brings a strong background to bear to help with the missions and focus of the nuclear weapons complex including the production plants and the national laboratories. His expertise in space and missile operations should serve him well in his new position at NNSA."

Brig. Gen. (Sel.) Haeckel will work closely in this position with the Department of Defense, the Nuclear Weapons Council and the military services to ensure that the NNSA continues to deliver on its commitment to maintain the nation's nuclear deterrent.

Brig. Gen. (Sel.) Haeckel has most recently held the position of Vice Director of Plans, United States Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. The directorate is the focal point for operational requirements, concepts, policy, doctrine, strategy and force development, critical infrastructure protection, and political-military activities.

Prior to that he served as Commander, 91<sup>st</sup> Space Wing, Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota from 1998-2000. While there he led the wing to numerous awards and distinctions, including the Air Force Space Command's best missile wing, best ICBM operations and best maintenance team. Brig. Gen. (Sel.) Haeckel has also received numerous awards and decorations, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

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