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SUBCOMMITTEE**

STATEMENT OF

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**OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS)**

BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

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Opening Statement before the HASC O&I JIEDDO Briefing/Hearing – 16 September 2008

Good Morning,

I am Bill Beasley, the acting Director of the Joint Rapid Acquisition Cell, the JRAC. The JRAC acts as the Combatant Commander's agent, addressing the Joint Urgent Operational Needs¹ and Immediate Warfighter Needs² of their Commands. Established jointly³ by the Under Secretaries of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics and the Comptroller, the JRAC receives, for timely action, Joint Urgent Operational Needs that have been certified⁴ by a Combatant Commander and validated⁵ by the Joint Staff. The JRAC engages with many organizations to provide solutions to the Combatant Commands' needs.

Since 2004 the United States Central Command has identified several hundred Joint Urgent Operational Needs of which about half are counter-IED related. With some exceptions, the counter-IED Joint Urgent Operational Needs are provided by the JRAC to the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization for action. The JRAC ensures actions through its participation in the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization management and advisory boards, and supporting oversight of the Organization for the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The JRAC has also supported specific Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization actions. In October, 2005, at the request of the Deputy Secretary, the JRAC provided management assistance and oversight to meet the significant growth in United State Central Command requirements for Counter Radio-controlled Electronic Warfare Jammers, commonly called "CREW." This responsibility was transferred in 2007 to the Navy once the CREW single service manager was established. The JRAC additionally assisted the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization in receiving "determinations" by the Secretary of Defense to use Rapid Acquisition Authority⁶ to expedite CREW procurement actions

That concludes my brief remarks and I look forward to your questions.

¹ Joint Urgent Operational Needs (JUON) – a COCOM-certified and prioritized urgent operational need, outside DoD 5000/Military processes, requiring a Doctrine, Operations, Training, Materiel, Leadership, Personnel and/or Facilities solution, that, if left unfulfilled, will seriously endanger personnel and/or pose a major threat to ongoing operations.

² Immediate Warfighter Needs (IWN) – A JUON requiring a more timely (Goal – 120 days to 2 years) materiel, services, and/or logistics solution.

³ Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, Immediate Warfighter Needs, September 3, 2004

⁴ Certified - meets the definition of a JUON

⁵ Validated - recognized by the Joint Staff as a valid capability gap in accordance with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction CJCSI 3470.01, Rapid Validation and Resourcing of Joint Urgent Operational Needs in the Year of Execution, 15 July 2005

⁶ Rapid Acquisition Authority – Established in the Bob Stump National Defense Act for Fiscal Year 2003, as amended by the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005. Promulgated by SecDef Memo dated 25 January 2005 titled: Fiscal Year 2005 Rapid Acquisition Authority.