





ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 2600 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2500



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Mr. Eric D. Newsom
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Political Military Affairs
PM, Room 7325
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520-7325

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Dear Mr. Newsom:

I invite you to participate with me in a senior-level policy workshop on December 7, 1995. The Department of Defense is aggressively pursuing adequate protection for U.S. military personnel that may be exposed to biological agents during regional contingency operations. This effort raises many complex questions about the protection of coalition/allied military personnel, mission-essential foreign nationals and non-mission-essential U.S. civilians, otherwise referred to as "other than U.S. forces" (OTUSF). My office is sponsoring a policy review of these questions. I have asked Ambassador Robert Joseph, Director of the National Defense University's (NDU) Center for Counterproliferation Research and Brigadier General Russ Zajtchuk, Commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command to join me as co-sponsors in this important work.

Bio War 2000 is the first war game and policy workshop to address biological defense for OTUSF. It will establish a conceptual baseline for DoD/USG policy options for this issue and should benefit interagency planning. On November 8-9, more than 70 action officers from across the government met in a seminar-based war game and identified several issues whose implications warrant further consideration by senior decision-making officials.

I will co-chair the half day workshop on December 7 to deliberate the salient issues surfaced in the earlier war game. Your participation in this workshop will facilitate development of a comprehensive action plan as the next step in formulating U.S. policy regarding biological warfare defensive measures. Additionally, I hope you will accept my invitation to be a discussant on the panel.

The four hour workshop is scheduled to begin at 1:00 pm on Thursday, December 7, 1995 at NDU's War Gaming Center at Ft. McNair. Comprehensive read-ahead materials will be provided under separate cover. Please send your security information to Lt Col (b)(6) Office of Counterproliferation Analysis and Response, (703) 697-3645, fax (703) 614-4146. Administrative questions can be answered by (b)(6) at (703) 528-4575.

I look forward to discussing these important issues with you on December 7.

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Ashton B. Carter