

Fact Sheet

Defense Threat Reduction Agency

U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction



DTRA, SCC-WMD and SJFHQ-E

Defense Threat Reduction Agency

Established in 1998, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) provides the Department of Defense's core intellectual, technical, and operational support expertise for countering threats posed by weapons of mass destruction (chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear) and high-yield explosives. As both a defense agency and a combat support agency, DTRA has a mission that spans:

- Nonproliferation (cooperative reduction and elimination of WMD, associated delivery systems, materials, and infrastructure at their source) – Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction and Arms Control Treaty Monitoring and Verification
- Counterproliferation (detering and defeating WMD threats) – WMD detection, tracking, and interdiction; WMD agent defeat; hardened target defeat; and protection of people, systems, and infrastructure against WMD effects
- Consequence Management (responding to WMD usage and mitigating its effects) – WMD effects prediction; Reachback support to decision makers and first responders; and advisory teams
- Countering WMD Planning Support - support to DoD and joint CWMD policy, strategy, and doctrine development; expertise and support for DoD-wide CWMD planning; exercise support
- Support to a Safe, Secure, and Effective U.S. Nuclear Deterrent – nuclear weapons accountability; nuclear weapons safety and security; inspections of nuclear capable units; and related training

U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating WMD

In 2005, the Secretary of Defense assigned the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command (CDRUSSTRATCOM) responsibility for integrating and synchronizing DoD countering WMD (CWMD) efforts in support of U.S. Government objectives, and for advocating for CWMD mission needs. The CDRUSSTRATCOM turned to DTRA for its CWMD expertise and established the U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction (SCC-WMD) at DTRA's Fort Belvoir location. The Center advises combatant commands on WMD-related matters, provides critical planning expertise and develops recommendations to reduce vulnerabilities and improve Department of Defense effectiveness in combating WMD. There is a direct working relationship between combatant commands responsible for the WMD mission and DTRA's technical and operational mission expertise. On January 31, 2006, the DTRA Director was also designated as the Director for the SCC-WMD.

Standing Joint Force Headquarters – Elimination

On February 3, 2012, the CDRUSSTRATCOM activated the Standing Joint Force Headquarters - Elimination (SJFHQ-E) to provide a command and control element for a Geographic Combatant Commander or Joint Task Force responsible for the elimination of WMD in hostile or uncertain conditions. The SJFHQ-E is a military unit commanded by the SCC-WMD Deputy Director and, although co-located with DTRA and the SCC-WMD, reports directly to the CDRUSSTRATCOM.

DTRA and its USSTRATCOM partners employ over 2,000 members of the military and civilians that are making the world safer by reducing WMD threats every day. For additional information, visit www.dtra.mil.

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