

PRESS RELEASE -- Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs

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ORS Office stands up at Kirtland AFB

WASHINGTON - The Department of Defense is standing up the joint Operationally Responsive Space Office at Kirtland Air Force Base, NM, on May 21. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. with Dr. Ron Sega, Under Secretary of the Air Force and DoD Executive Agent for Space, as the keynote speaker.

"Many government organizations and agencies, to include all the military services, have been working together on the operationally responsive space effort," said Dr. Sega. "The official standup of the joint ORS Office will be an important step for the future of ORS, providing a critical link in synchronizing the cooperative, joint efforts throughout DoD and the national security space arena."

Colonel Kevin McLaughlin has been tapped to be the first ORS Office director. He will assume leadership of the ORS Office at the standup ceremony, and be dual-hatted as the Space Development and Test Wing commander at Kirtland AFB. The standup event will also involve members of the many organizations which have been involved in ORS activities to date, including: the Army, Navy, Air Force, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, Missile Defense Agency, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The report, "Plan for Operationally Responsive Space," signed by Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England and delivered to Congress in late April, called for the establishment of an ORS office. The report provided the framework and identified actions to be taken to assure that ORS is postured to rapidly provide new space capabilities.

The report states that, "The overall approach is to expedite development and fielding of select responsive space systems by leveraging NSS-wide technology development activities and operational capabilities; provide integration and technical support to other Service and Government Agency activities..."

"The Department of Defense is committed to improving the Nation's means to develop, acquire, field and employ space capabilities in shortened timeframes and more

affordable ways. We recognize the need for innovation and responsiveness in delivering space capabilities to all users."

For more information about the standup of the ORS Office, contact 377th ABW Public Affairs at 505-246-6068.