



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Allan Oliver
505.476.2214

**Governor Bill Richardson Announces
US Air Force Cyberspace Command Task Force**
*Task Force To Make Case for New Mexico to Serve as New Home for
US Air Force Cyberspace Command*

SANTA FE – Today Governor Bill Richardson announced the formation of a US Air Force Cyberspace Command Task Force made up of state and community leaders as well as military and cyberspace experts to promote New Mexico as home for a new permanent US Air Force Cyberspace Command. Between now and the fall of 2008, the US Air Force will be evaluating possible sites for a new US Air Force Cyberspace Command.

“With several military bases, two premier national security science labs, New Mexico has the right conditions and the best scientific talent to serve as the new home of the US Air Force Cyberspace Command,” said Governor Bill Richardson. “Terrorists and criminal networks are now operating in cyberspace and the Air Force has accepted the challenge to defend our country from this threat. We believe New Mexico is best equipped to host a new Air Force Cyberspace Command and I’ve formed this task force to make that case to the Department of Defense.”

The task force will be chaired by Economic Development Department Secretary Designate Fred Mondragon and will include retired military officers and national security experts, information technology business leaders, members of the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission, the Secretary of the Economic Development Department and community leaders. The Task force is charged with providing a final report by May 31, 2008.

US Air Force Cyberspace Command Task Force

Chair - Fred Mondragon, Secretary Designate, Economic Development Department
Ex-Officio - Lt. Governor Diane Denish

Members

1. Hanson Scott, Brigadier General, USAF (Ret); Director, Economic Development Department, Office of Military Base Planning
2. Tony Strati, member of the NM Military Base Planning Commission
3. Randy Harris, member of the NM Military Base Planning Commission
4. Brad Hosmer, Retired Lt. General and Chairman, Armed Forces Services Corporation
5. Terri Cole, Executive Director, Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce
6. Alex Romero, Albuquerque Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
7. Clint Hubbard, Chief Information Officer, City of Albuquerque
8. Carol Radosevich, Director of Economic Development, PNM
9. Chuck Zang, Senior Vice President, Scientific Applications International Corporation
10. Jerry McDowell, VP, Defense Systems and Assessments, Sandia National Laboratory
11. Doug Beason, Associate Director for Threat Reduction, Los Alamos National Laboratory
12. Tom Bowles, Science Advisor, Office of the Governor
13. Jerry Weinstein, Retired US Air Force Officer
14. Steve Downie, CEO, Ktech Corporation
15. Anthony Contri, President, Rhinocorps Corporation

The task force will also include representatives of the New Mexico Congressional delegation to assure close coordination between state and federal authorities.

In December 2005, the US Air Force formally added the defense of cyberspace into their mission, and it has begun placing a new priority on that new mission. The US Joint Chiefs of Staff defines cyber space as “characterized by the use of electronics and the electromagnetic spectrum to store, modify and exchange data via networked systems and associated physical infrastructures.”

According to Lt. Col Paul Berg, Air Force cyberspace activities could include defending computer networks, using communication and global positioning system satellites, and conducting Internet financial transactions.

According to a McClatchy newspaper report, in fiscal year 2007 the Department of Homeland Security received 37,000 reports of attempted breaches on government and private systems, compared with 24,000 the previous year. Assaults on federal agencies increased 152 percent during that period from 5,143 to 12,986.

Executive Order Follows:

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2007-055

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE

CYBERSPACE COMMAND TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Richardson Administration is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all New Mexico citizens and strives to protect life and property by providing a comprehensive system for the prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and response to and recovery from disasters and emergencies through its Office of Homeland Security, § 9-28-2 NMSA 1978;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New Mexico Constitution, Article 5, Section 4, and Article 18, the Governor is the commander in chief of the state's military forces, and in this capacity the Governor appoints an adjunct general to direct the Department of Military Affairs whose primary mission is to provide military forces to the State of New Mexico in the event of manmade or natural disaster, § 20-1-1, et seq., § 20-3-1 et seq., § 20-4-1 et seq.;

WHEREAS, the Richardson Administration created the New Mexico Office of Military Base Planning and Support, which is administratively attached to the Economic Development Department, and is charged with supporting the Military Base Planning Commission and advising the Governor and the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management regarding the support and preservation of military bases in the State, § 9-15-48 NMSA 1978;

WHEREAS, the Richardson Administration established the Military Base Planning Commission, which is administratively attached to the Economic Development Department, and is charged with evaluating information about the federal government's plans and initiatives regarding military base realignment and closure and ensuring the continued presence of military bases in the state, §§ 9-15-49 & 9-15-50;

WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to several military bases, namely the White Sands Missile Range (Army) near Las Cruces, Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo, Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, and Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, which contribute significantly to the nation's security. New Mexico also includes a large portion of the Fort Bliss Army Base;

WHEREAS, the Richardson Administration, New Mexico's Congressional delegation, and neighboring communities, have successfully combined forces to preserve the prosperity and viability of military bases in the State;

WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to two premier national security science labs -- Los Alamos National Labs and Sandia National Labs -- whose primary mission is to research and develop technologies to sustain, modernize, and protect our nuclear arsenal, prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction, defend against terrorism, protect our national infrastructures, ensure stable energy and water supplies, and provide new capabilities to our armed forces;

WHEREAS, the United States Air Force recently has announced plans to establish a new major command center responsible for formulating and implementing a nationwide strategy to secure cyberspace as a part of Homeland Security objectives by organizing, training, and equipping forces to preserve and protect the secured use of cyberspace;

WHEREAS, the term “cyberspace” is loosely defined as the use of electronics and electromagnetic spectrum to store, modify and exchange data via networked systems and associated physical infrastructures;

WHEREAS, certain hostile groups may try to undermine the global information network through organized cyber attacks that will jeopardize and destabilize our Nation’s critical infrastructure, economy, and national security; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico has a vital interest in promoting and supporting any efforts to strengthen and improve our national security and is uniquely qualified to assist the U.S. Air Force in its endeavors given its extensive history and experience with several military bases and research laboratories.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT the following:

1. **Establishment of the “Air Force Cyberspace Command Task Force” (hereinafter “Task Force”)**. There is hereby established this Task Force which shall consist of the following individuals and entities:
 - a. Lt. Governor of the State of New Mexico;
 - b. Secretary of the Economic Development Department;
 - c. Retired General Officers with extensive experience in Air Force Programs and Plans;
 - d. Business leaders with expertise in the area of New Mexico’s information technology and computer networked systems;
 - e. Director of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management;
 - f. Director of the New Mexico Office of Military Base Planning and Support;
 - g. At least one representative from the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission;
 - h. Other experts in the field of national security and military-based research and planning; and
 - i. Community leaders with an interest in recruiting and promoting New Mexico for the purposes of this Order.
2. The Governor shall appoint the Chair of the Task Force.

3. The Task Force shall meet at least every two months for the remainder of the year 2007 and for the year of 2008 and shall meet thereafter at the call of the Chairman.
4. The members of the Task Force shall not be paid but shall receive per diem and mileage as provided by the Per Diem and Mileage Act, § 10-8-1 NMSA 1978.
5. The Task Force shall keep confidential any information it obtains that contains proprietary information or matters involving homeland security or national security.

II. Duties of the Task Force. The Task Force shall:

1. Obtain and evaluate information regarding the U.S. Air Force's plans to establish a cyberspace command at a military base;
2. Work with and provide assistance to local communities that are uniquely qualified to support such an endeavor in their local area;
3. Ensure collaboration with all levels of government, including laboratories and military bases, and the private sector to develop a collective effort to advance New Mexico's interests in assisting the U.S. Air Force in its plans;
4. Work with and provide assistance to New Mexico's congressional delegation on matters related to the cyberspace command;
5. Provide a report to the Governor no later than May 31, 2008, outlining:
 - a. New Mexico's advantages and capabilities in supporting an U.S. Air Force cyberspace command.
 - b. Timelines for development of the project by the U.S. Air Force.
 - c. Funding and other infrastructure support necessary for housing a command.
 - d. Unique expertise and technology needs for the command.
 - e. Any other information deemed necessary to determine the requirements for such a command in New Mexico.
6. Provide advice and briefing papers to the Governor on an ongoing basis for use in communications with the U.S. Air Force and Department of Defense leadership regarding New Mexico's special capabilities and interest in this project.
7. Provide to the Governor timely and periodic updates on the status of the U.S. Air Force's decision-making process and next steps regarding the selection of a site.

8. Coordinate and collaborate with the Department of Economic Development and the Office of Military Base Planning and Support to develop a comprehensive and effective initiative that highlights New Mexico's unique qualifications for supporting such a command.
9. Identify appropriate incentives for advancing New Mexico's interest in providing a site for the command.
10. Propose any legislation or other action necessary for implementing the intent and purposes of this Order.

III. State Agency Support

All state agencies shall assist, as appropriate, in implementing this Order and fulfilling its purpose. The actions mandated as a result of this Executive Order shall be accomplished within the bounds of, and consistent with, the relevant agency's statutory and regulatory authority.

THIS ORDER supersedes any other previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect until such time as it is rescinded by the Governor.

**ATTEST:
THIS**

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2007

**MARY HERRERA
GREAT
SECRETARY OF STATE
MEXICO**

**WITNESS MY HAND AND THE
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW**

**BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO**