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OPERATIONAL TEST
AND EVALUATION

INFO MEMO

MAY 05 2015

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: J. Michael Gilmore, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation

SUBJECT: (U) Initial Operational Test and Evaluation (IOT&E) Report on the Department of Defense (DOD) Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) Version 1.2 (v1.2)

- (U) I have attached at TAB A, the IOT&E report for the DOD ABIS v1.2, required by Section 2399, Title 10, United States Code. This system is the official repository of biometric data of potential terrorists and other persons of interest to the DOD. Deployed units use ABIS v 1.2 to positively identify known terrorists and persons of interest. In the report, I conclude the following:
  - (U) The DOD ABIS v1.2 is operationally effective. ABIS v1.2 successfully processed approximately 130,000 biometric and latent fingerprint submissions during the IOT&E, and reduced operator workload by automatically processing a higher percentage of biometric submissions. The system received and processed multi-modal biometric and latent submissions, stored in standardized formats, matched submissions against stored records, shared match responses in accordance with mission timeliness requirements while complying with national and international sharing agreements, and issued alerts whenever incoming submissions successfully matched against an identity on the DOD master watch list.
  - (U) ABIS v1.2 is not operationally suitable. While the system met the Mean Time Between Failures requirement, the occurrence of Essential Function Failures during the IOT&E was excessive. Additionally, users in surveys expressed concerns in the areas of training, usability, and supportability. Moreover, immature help desk processes hindered the accurate accounting of trouble-tickets and resolution times.
  - (U) ABIS v1.2 is not survivable. Cybersecurity scans conducted from March 2014 to May 2014 revealed 102 significant vulnerabilities. The system does not meet DOD redundancy requirements and would be out of service in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Assessment of backup, restore, and recovery procedures have been deferred to follow-on test and evaluation.

COORDINATION: None

Attachment: TAB A

Prepared by: (b)(6)

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