



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Accelerating Data and Artificial Intelligence for the Warfighter

Secretary Austin's May 13, 2021 memorandum approving the Joint All Domain Command and Control Strategy (JADC2) sets forth a pathway to enable our leaders and warfighters to orient, decide, and act faster than our competitors. Doing so requires providing operational commanders with data-driven technologies, including artificial intelligence, machine learning, and automation.

To accelerate progress on JADC2 in support of the Secretary's vision, the Department will launch an AI and Data Acceleration (ADA) Initiative. The ADA Initiative will support our Combatant Commands in integrating and scaling ongoing and proven capabilities used in real-world operations, simulations, experiments, and demonstrations. Designed to move quickly, the initiative will be a catalyst for our Combatant Commands on two critical dimensions:

- Improving data management with "Operational Data Teams" (ODT) forward-deployed to each Combatant Command's data office. ODTs will scale existing platforms and assist warfighters in making their data visible, accessible, understandable, linked, trustworthy, interoperable, and secure.
- Adopting interoperable AI-enabled sensor fusion, asset tasking, mission autonomy, and real-time decision advantage planning tools developed and deployed through a cross-component AI expert team (AIET). The AIET will support continuous experimentation, to enable Commanders to act with the awareness, speed, and precision for battlefield advantage.

Operational Data Teams will arrive at the first tranche of Combatant Commands within 90 days. The first AIET will be deployed by the end of 2021. The progress of these teams and any lessons learned will be regularly briefed to the Secretary of Defense to ensure continued advancement of JADC2 priorities. I have directed appropriate resources be aligned to support this effort.



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