



THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC



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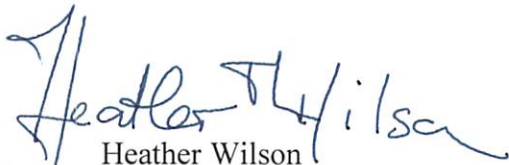
Fellow Airmen:


This week President Trump directed the Department of Defense to begin planning to establish a space force as a new military service within the department.

As the President said, "When it comes to defending America, it is not enough to have an American presence in space, we must have American dominance in space." The President's statement to the National Space Council adds emphasis to the Air Force position -- space is a warfighting domain and the entire national security space enterprise must continue to enhance lethality, resilience, and agility to meet the challenge posed by potential adversaries. We look forward to working with Department of Defense leaders, Congress, and our national security partners to move forward on this planning effort.

This work directed by the President will be a thorough, deliberate, and inclusive process. As such, we should not expect any immediate moves or changes. Our focus must remain on the mission as we continue to accelerate the space warfighting capabilities required to support the National Defense Strategy.

We remain the best in the world in space and our adversaries know it. Thank you for standing the watch. We're proud to serve with you!


Heather Wilson
Secretary of the Air Force


David L. Goldfein
General USAF
Chief of Staff


Kaleth O. Wright
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force