



News Release

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DARPA DEVELOPED TECHNOLOGIES CRITICAL TO RMA, STUDY SAYS

A recent study sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) concludes that “DARPA has been instrumental in the development of a number of technologies, systems and concepts critical” to the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA). The study was conducted by the Institute for Defense Analyses.

The study reviews DARPA-sponsored systems and demonstrations since the 1970s and describes how they contributed to the development of disruptive military capabilities for stealth, standoff precision strike, and advanced intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. In Operation Desert Storm, these capabilities allowed the U.S. to change the rules of conventional warfare from favoring forces with the best or the most individual weapons systems towards forces with better information and a greater ability to quickly plan and coordinate, and accurately attack. It is this shift that many consider to be the forefront of a broad Revolution in Military Affairs.

The report includes case studies on the development of stealth combat aircraft, standoff precision strike for the Air Force and Army, Naval stealth and standoff precision strike, unmanned aerial vehicles, space-based radar, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems. It also includes a section discussing how vision and leadership at DARPA and DoD are crucial to the implementation of disruptive capabilities.

Copies of the study, “Transformation and Transition: DARPA’s Role in Fostering an Emerging Revolution in Military Affairs, Volume I, Overall Assessment,” are available online at <http://www.darpa.mil/body/mission.html>.

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