

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Support for Demonstration STRONG ANGEL III, August 20-26, 2006

In the spring of 2000 the US Navy sponsored a refugee management exercise modeled on the needs identified during relief operations in Kosovo in the late 1990's. The exercise was called STRONG ANGEL. The focus of that original demonstration was the testing of approaches to military participation in complex emergencies. STRONG ANGEL II (2004), sponsored by DARPA and this office, was designed to address problems identified in Iraq and Afghanistan and showcased novel ways to facilitate the flow of humanitarian information across the civil-military boundary in austere network environments. Both events were quite successful and drew participants from local communities, the military, the federal government, the UN, and from several international relief organizations.

San Diego State University (SDSU) has graciously offered to host and support the third in-series demonstration, STRONG ANGEL III (SAIII), in August of 2006. The demonstration will consist of a series of integrated tasks supporting international cooperation and community resilience. The selected tasks address the challenges presented by events that compromise any city's ability to coordinate a capable response to widespread illness and quarantine. Designed to be of international relevance, SAIII will tap the expertise and creativity of participants in a highly coordinated fashion. Additionally the demonstration will address the development of social tools and techniques that encourage collaborative international and cross-cultural cooperation in the midst of a complex contingency, while reinforcing the social and physical structures that comprise local community resilience.

The Office of the Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration (OASD-NII) encourages and embraces this initiative and will work to support the demonstration as available resources permit. Participation by global industry partners, US and foreign government and military offices, and a wide range of international organizations, is critical to the success of this demonstration and highly encouraged.

Linton Wells II
Principal Deputy