Structuring for Strategic Cyber Defense: A Cyber Manhattan Project Blueprint

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Under-space supporting societal fabric is as strategically important as space over head.

The Cyber Space Race is on!

National Strategic Threat

- Threat—Sovereignty is at risk
- Planning—DARK ANGEL (PCD)
 - -\$500M, 3 years → Strategic Damage
- Follow-on—Congressional Commission for National Cyber Risk Assessment

A New Manhattan Project

- Vision—overcome national strategic vulnerability ASAP
- Urgency—LC sleeper attacks likely, defenses will take years
- Priority—Adversary offense & U.S. dependency increasing
- Feasibility—Tech, Biz Case, Operation, Political, Timing
- Project Description—architecture, capabilities-driven
- Analogy Limits—Widget, secrecy, sustained
- Cyber Space Race—hard, pervasive, societal

Strategic Cyber Capabilities Desired End-States (OMW'07)

- Continuity of Critical Info Infra. Operations
 - resilience in face of strategic attack, recovery
- Well-Defended Critical Assets
 - make economically prohibitive to cause strategic damage
- Local/Global Cyber Situation Awareness
 - what's on, who's on, what's connected, traffic, threats
- Confidentiality-Preserving Systems
 - prevent unauthorized exfiltration of valued data
- Extensible Systems Safely Embrace New Technology
 - extend functionality safely and assuredly
- Metrics-Based Quantifiable Security
 - guiding light to progress

Organizing for Success

- The Right Organizing Model—DARPA, NASA
- The Right Start—Agile SPO orchestrating others
- The Right Place—Above the Fray
- The Right Clout—Presidential Backing
- The Right Authority—Power of the Purse
- The Right Leadership—Best of the Best, Diverse
- The Right Size—(Thermopylae) 300
- The Right Mission—Avoid Strategic Damage

A Way Forward

- Use Architectural Principles—stratify
- Value and Prioritize—protect critical, recovery
- Validate—testing to validate theory, strategies
- Create Assured Trust—authentication & attestation
- Develop Human Capital—workforce is key
- Robust Standing Research—create communities
- Preparatory Deep Analysis—assess "moves"

Conclusions

- Focus on Strategic Cyber Space
 - Avoid effort diffusion, being overwhelmed
 - Focus on "what can kill you"
- Stakes are High—provide for common defense
- Reengineering Cyber Space
 - Cyber territory is engineered and manufactured
 - Requires industry and market reengineering
- Strategic Uncertainty is not acceptable
 - Must understand gravity and nature
 - Ignorance represents a serious policy failure