



Dr. Steven L. Messervy

Deputy Commander
Research, Development and Acquisition
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/
Army Forces Strategic Command



From Concept to Combat

This year's Army Space Cadre Symposium was an excellent forum for sharing ideas and information about the Army Space profession. The speakers scheduled at the symposium represented a cross-section from the services and agencies and made it a tremendous opportunity to learn and to share information with other Space professionals.

Since assuming the position in May as the Deputy to the Commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, it has been my privilege to provide oversight and management of the RDA elements of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (USASMDC/ARSTRAT). My focus mirrors that of our commander – to provide the Warfighter advanced capabilities in Space and missile defense.

My duties entail heading the Contracting Activity; directing and controlling the accomplishment and execution of all research, development, and acquisition related missions assigned to USASMDC as well as overseeing all technical development and acquisition performance. The RDA subordinate elements of: the Space and Missile Defense Technical Center, the Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center, and the Contracting Acquisition Management Office, are able to reach across industry, military and academia to provide cost-effective solutions to Space and missile defense challenges faced by our nation's

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Warfighters. We like to say that we take Warfighter needs from “Concept to Combat.”

Our efforts are focused on Space superiority, tactical responsive Space, high altitude long loiter, cyber, directed energy, and battlefield integration (with several programs in each one designed to answer some of the identified gaps in Space capabilities). Each of the RDA elements are made up of civilians and military personnel dedicated to developing or acquiring the best Space and missile defense capabilities possible. From creating counter improvised explosive device systems, to building responsive small satellites, to blazing the trail in laser research; our scientists and engineers are tireless in the pursuit of solutions.

This doesn’t mean we have all the answers. We may not even have all the questions – this is where you come in. As Army Space Cadre, you are a part of the process – by helping us identify needs and by providing feedback. It is vital that we hear from you – what works and what doesn’t work. We also want to assist in finding the answers to some of your challenges. You serve at the tip of the spear providing support to our Warfighters.

I want you to know that there is reachback capability to our experts in the labs. If we don’t have the answers, we can certainly find the right people or organizations that do have the right answers. I invite you to communicate with our organization. For RDA assistance with Space and High Altitude Issues: Dr. Rodney Robertson: (256) 955-3520; for Battlefield Integration Issues: Debra Wymer: (256) 955-1416; and for Acquisition Issues: Cathy Dickens: (256) 955-3410.

We are all part of a team of teams dedicated to providing support to the Warfighter. I hope you took advantage of the information being shared at the symposium, but remember that you have just as much to add as you have to gain. I look forward to hearing from you.

Biography

Dr. Steven L. Messervy is the Deputy to the Commander for Research, Development and Acquisition at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command located at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. As the deputy to the commander, Dr. Messervy manages USASMDC/ARSTRAT’s RD&A activities and is responsible for overseeing all materiel development functions, test and evaluation activities, and support.

Since 2005, Messervy served as the general manager of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medium Extended Air Defense System Management Agency (NAMEADSMA) in Huntsville, Ala. He has also served as the deputy Program Executive Officer (PEO) for Missiles and Space, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Messervy has more than 28 years experience in the research, development, and acquisition business which includes aviation, tactical missile and unmanned aerial vehicle systems, national and theater missile defense, Space, strategic defense laser, missile, and other technology programs.

He has a doctorate degree in systems engineering and operations research. He is a graduate of the Defense Systems Management College Program Manager’s Course and the Army War College. He was named a Sloan Fellow and completed a master’s degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is also a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

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