



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Patrick Swan, CIO/G-6  
Phone: (703) 693-3069  
E-mail: [Patrick.Swan@us.army.mil](mailto:Patrick.Swan@us.army.mil)

### **DoD Biometrics Management Office Launches Second Phase of Biometrics Testing at POAC**

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 12, 2002 – The Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office (BMO) is entering the second phase of a three phase biometrics Quick Look project for the Pentagon Athletic Center (POAC). Progressing from the first phase of this project, which involved educating POAC staff about iris scan technology using a demo, the second phase will involve 30 days of enrolling POAC members into Iridian's IrisAccess 2000. Enrollment is a voluntary activity that will involve capturing data from the enrollee's member ID card and iris. The individual will then be able to gain access into POAC using the iris scan and their member ID card. The ultimate goal of this project is to move secure access procedures away from member ID-based to biometrics-enabled only.

"Moving from member IDs to this type of biometric system will allow POAC members secure access to the facility, and promote convenience for them since they will not have to carry anything on their person," said Dr. Linda Dean, director of the BMO. "It will also empower POAC staff with the ability to verify the identity of the person trying to gain access."

"Security is always a priority at the POAC. Phase one of the project has already generated a significant level of interest among the membership," said Mr. Lacy E. Saunders, director of morale, welfare and recreation for DoD.

The third phase of this Quick Look, which is scheduled to begin on August 30, 2002, will involve using IrisAccess 2000 as the sole tool for access into POAC.

The Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC), the testing and evaluation facility for the BMO, conducts Quick Looks for DoD. These Quick Looks involve testing and evaluating commercial-off-the-shelf biometric

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products for a specific DoD security access requirement. If the Quick Look determines that the product will satisfy the requirement, and if there are available resources, the product may undergo additional, more aggressive testing as a BFC Pilot project. The Pilot determines whether or not the product will actually be implemented at a Service, Agency or combatant command.

POAC members interested in participating in the enrollment phase of this Quick Look are encouraged to contact POAC directly for enrollment procedures and questions.

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*The Department of Defense Biometrics Management Office is the central entity within the DoD responsible for leading, consolidating and coordinating the development, adoption and institutionalization of biometric technologies for combatant commands, Services and Agencies, to enhance Joint Service interoperability and warfighter operational effectiveness.*

