

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: David Smith (Kennedy)  
(202) 224-2633  
Shawn Feddeman (Romney)  
(617) 725-4025

**SENATOR KENNEDY AND GOVERNOR ROMNEY DISCUSS  
HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE EXPANSION WITH PENTAGON  
OFFICIALS**

Washington, D.C., September 21, 2004 - Senator Edward M. Kennedy and Governor Mitt Romney met in Washington today with Pentagon officials to discuss Massachusetts' initiative to expand Hanscom Air Force Base to meet future requirements of the Department of Defense and the Air Force.

The plan would more than double the capabilities of Hanscom in the six areas of command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, called "C4ISR" by the military. The plan would expand the Hanscom C4ISR mission capability on the base by 125% while reducing the Pentagon's annual operating costs for these missions. Hanscom's expansion will be funded by the state at a total estimated cost of \$410 million, of which \$168 million will be self-financed through housing revenue from military personnel's Basic Assistance for Housing allowance.

Kennedy and Romney highlighted the importance of the Hanscom community to successful C4ISR capability. Hanscom has spearheaded major improvements in C4ISR through its partnerships with universities, think tanks, and industry in the area.

"Hanscom's expansion will help the Defense Department to meet its future strategic needs more effectively, and with significant cost savings for the Department," said Senator Kennedy. "Massachusetts, with its leading role in high-technology research and its military applications, is the ideal home for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century missions of the Air Force."

Governor Romney said the effort to expand Hanscom's research and technology capabilities is designed to increase the base's competitiveness in the upcoming Base Realignment and Closure process. "This forward-thinking initiative to expand Hanscom will create thousands of new jobs and save the ones that are already there by making the base more indispensable to the Pentagon's research and development needs."

Present at the meeting along with Kennedy and Romney were Dr. Ron Sega, Director of Defense Research and Engineering; Dr. James Roche, Secretary of the Air Force; Fred Kuhn, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations; and Marvin Sambur, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisitions, Research and Development.

###