



Defense Reform Initiative Made Part of Day-to-Day Operations

Stan Z. Soloway, DUSD (Acquisition Reform), Tapped to Direct Defense Reform

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen today announced organizational changes affecting the Department's Defense Reform Initiative. In order to make defense reform a part of the day-to-day operations of the Department of Defense, Cohen has moved responsibility for the DRI to the office overseeing acquisition reform.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Reform Stan Z. Soloway will also serve as director of Defense Reform, reporting directly to the Secretary in his DRI capacity. Soloway will be "dual-hatted," retaining his duties in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology).

The Defense Reform Initiative, announced in November 1997, is designed to streamline the organizational structure and business practices of the Department of Defense. In a March 1 update on DRI progress, Cohen stated current reform efforts build on four pillars: elimination, reengineering, consolidation, and competition. The overall effort has expanded, however, to now include reforms in acquisition, logistics, financial management, quality of life for DoD personnel, and new missions for the 21st century. To maintain DRI momentum, Cohen decided to institutionalize the process in the Department's existing organizational structure.

In announcing these changes, Cohen commented, "Defense Reform is now more than 16 months old and has experienced numerous successes. We jump-started implementation by placing DRI directly in my office, but to maintain momentum, this initiative must be a part of the Department's daily operations. Placing it in the Acquisition Reform office – which is currently involved in numerous aspects of the DRI – is a key step in achieving that goal."



Cohen thanked outgoing DRI Director William (Bill) Houley for his outstanding work, stating achievements in the past year would have not been possible without his leadership.

Soloway joined the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology) in March 1998. Prior to joining the Department of Defense, he was a public affairs and public policy consultant to a wide range of companies and associations for 20 years. Soloway's particular expertise includes government contracting, acquisition policies, and competitive sourcing/privatization issues.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news> on the Internet.