

quisition decision makers, and to finding various means to meet military test and evaluation challenges in the face of resource and time constraints.

ATEC is placing increasing emphasis on its Virtual Proving Ground and other technical innovations to streamline testing and make it cost effective, Ertwine said, adding that about half the command's current technology investments are now going into modeling and simulation initiatives. His bottom line, however, is that test programs must help the Army procure weapons and equipment that will not fail soldiers under any conditions.

"When the balloon goes up and soldiers are sent to some Godforsaken place, we've got to be able to look their parents in the eyes and say we've done all we could to make sure their equipment works," he said.

**Editor's Note:** The author welcomes questions or comments on this article. Contact him at [castm@dtc.army.mil](mailto:castm@dtc.army.mil).

## IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The 2001 Acquisition Research Symposium (ARS), originally scheduled for June 18-20, 2001, in Rockville, Md., has been postponed so that major policy changes in the new administration can be addressed. We will be updating the DAU Home Page ([www.dau.mil](http://www.dau.mil)) as information becomes available.

## KEEP UP WITH CURRENT AT&L POLICY

Numerous policy guidance memoranda have been signed since the beginning of the new year! Read the latest at [http://www.acq.osd.mil/ar/\\*whatsnew.htm](http://www.acq.osd.mil/ar/*whatsnew.htm).

### Acquisition of Services

Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Dave Oliver establishes an Integrated Product Team to focus on the area of Performance-Based Services Acquisition (PBSA), Jan. 5, 2001.

### Commercial Acquisitions

Former Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Jacques Gansler provides guidance on overcoming barriers in accessing commercial items, Jan. 5, 2001.

### Reform of Intellectual Property Rights of Contractors

Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Dave Oliver highlights immediate policy areas for the treatment of intellectual property, Jan. 5, 2001.

### Incentive Strategies for Defense Acquisitions

Former Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Jacques Gansler provides guidance regarding the use of incentives in defense acquisitions, Jan. 5, 2001.

## JOHN P. "JACK" MCGOVERN

The Defense Acquisition University has received word of the death of John P. "Jack" McGovern of an apparent heart attack, on Thursday, March 8, 2001. Jack was a Professor of Manufacturing Management in the Faculty Division at the Defense Systems Management College (DSMC), and had recently retired from federal service on Dec. 31, 2000.

A resident of Fairfax Station, Va., Jack joined the DSMC faculty in April 1988. He came to the College from the Federal Systems Division, IBM Corporation, Manassas, Va., where he was an Advanced Signal Processor Program Manager. He is survived by his wife, Geneva, and four children: Kathleen McGovern, Gina McGovern, Michael McGovern, and Joseph McGovern. In addition, Jack is survived by two grandsons.

