

FEBRUARY 2010

UPDATE

Business Executives For National Security

“Army For An Uncertain Future” *BENS Members Help Plan Tomorrow’s Force*

The year is 2025. The U.S. suffers a sophisticated networked cyber attack. Enemies on overseas battlefields use space-based technology to target American soldiers. And Army posts on U.S. soil are increasingly attacked by extremists.

In preparing for such threats, the U.S. Army turned to BENS last month for private-sector perspectives and expertise at Unified Quest 2010, an annual exercise that examines how the service should plan today to meet future challenges and conflicts.

Four BENS members and one staff member offered business-minded viewpoints on how the Army should gear up for future operations, deployments, acquisition needs and sustaining troops in the field at Unified Quest 2010 workshops in McLean, Va., on Jan. 12-14, and Norfolk, Va., on Jan. 19-21. This year’s Unified Quest theme, “A Balanced and Prepared Army for an Uncertain Future,” is aimed at helping leaders prepare and rebalance the current force so that it is ready for future conflicts. The January brainstorming sessions—attended by over 200 military, government and other experts—produced guidance on how the Army should structure its investment strategy to meet tomorrow’s requirements, and urged the service to partner with the business sector and private citizens to combat threats both here and abroad.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey will use Unified Quest’s results to inform his planning and current budget requests—which will affect how the Army operates in 2025 and beyond.

BENS Works: Business Sense for National Security

Informing Intelligence — Coordinating 16 intelligence agencies and integrating all foreign, domestic and military intelligence to protect American interests is no easy task. For help, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)—which is charged with this formidable job—is looking to BENS members for best business practices on how to effectively manage such a large enterprise and successfully carry out its mission. From corporate strategy to budgeting and allocation of resources, nine BENS members are providing insight on organizational challenges to the ODNI in February and March to help it execute the National Intelligence Strategy. Meanwhile, two BENS members were selected in January by the ODNI for a separate project aimed at helping intelligence analysts gain a deeper understanding of industry sectors with importance to national security. The BENS members will advise experienced analysts for the next six months on the financial industry and its intersection with terrorist and other threats.

Click Here To Help Haiti — Does your business have products or services that can help Haiti

recover from the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake? If so, please visit the [BENS Aidmatrix portal](#). From there, you can either respond to a list of specific needs from relief organizations working in the country, or offer a general in-kind donation that will be matched to needs on the ground. The Aidmatrix Foundation—with whom BENS has long partnered—is working with federal agencies to manage in-kind donations for Haiti relief.

Event Highlights and BENS Developments

Petraeus: BENS “Advancing” National Security — BENS plays an important role in “advancing a whole host of national security interests,” Gen. David Petraeus, head of U.S. Central Command, said to a BENS dinner audience of 260 on Jan. 20 in Atlanta. After thanking BENS members for their work in providing private-sector expertise to the military and supporting U.S. troops, Petraeus gave a detailed presentation on his command’s mission with a focus on developments in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, where he called for a “whole of government” approach in combating terrorism. A portion of the dinner proceeds are supporting the BENS-led Warrior Gateway Project.



Gen. David Petraeus and BENS member Tommy Holder

Upcoming Events

- **Kansas City** – Dinner with Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, BENS President & CEO, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m., The River Club. Contact William Lawson at (816) 842-1778 or wlawson@bens.org.