

Business Executives For National Security UPDATE

OCTOBER 2005

Energy Secretary Bodman to Receive Eisenhower Award

For his lifetime of service in business, government and academia, BENS is pleased to announce that Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman will receive the Eisenhower Award during a Nov. 3 gala dinner at The Intrepid in New York City. As the nation's 11th energy secretary, Bodman oversees the National Nuclear Security Administration, responsible for stewardship of the U.S. nuclear stockpile and for securing nuclear materials around the world before they fall into the hands of terrorists. Energy secretary is Bodman's third cabinet-level position in four years, serving previously as deputy secretary of Commerce and Treasury. While at Treasury, Bodman worked with BENS members to improve methods of tracking terrorist financing.

Prior to entering government service, Bodman enjoyed a distinguished career in the private sector, including 15 years as Chairman and CEO of Cabot Corporation, a specialty chemical manufacturer, and a decade as president of Fidelity, which he helped build into one of the nation's largest financial service enterprises. For six years, he was an associate professor of chemical engineering at MIT, from which he also holds a doctorate in science. To join us in honoring Secretary Bodman contact Jennie Moonis at (202) 296-2125 or jmoonis@bens.org.

BENS Works: Business Sense for National Security

Full Steam Ahead – After a brief delay, the new National Strategy for Maritime Security was launched by the White House late last month. The new strategy includes a number of recommendations by BENS members on embedding security into commercial practices and coordinating public and private security measures. As they did in helping prepare the strategy, BENS members will continue to offer their private sector expertise as the National Security Council and Coast Guard work to bolster security at America's ports and waterways.

How Vulnerable Are You? – Although trillions of dollars of annual global trade is dependent on the Internet, this "network of networks" is plagued by weak security. That was the warning of BENS member and BP Chief Information Officer John Leggate, who testified before the House Science Committee on Sept. 15. In his testimony, Leggate argued that many business leaders are unaware of their company's true reliance on the Internet or the financial costs to their business in the event of a severe disruption. He recommended that, as a first step, the public and private sectors work together to identify the full extent of business dependence on the Internet. BENS has several projects aimed at doing just that.

Cart Before the Horse – In its final report forwarded by the White House to Congress, the BRAC Commission said this round should have occurred after a Congressional-mandated strategic reassessment conducted by the Pentagon every four years. Engaging in BRAC before the review forced potentially incorrect assumptions about the Pentagon's future needs, the commission said. The commission also revised downwards the expected BRAC savings by \$30 billion to only \$15 billion over 20 years and recommended waiting another 10 years before the next round of base closings. The Commission retained 86 percent of Pentagon recommendations, well in line with past BRAC rounds. Congress has 45 legislative days to reject the commission's recommendations. If Congress takes no action, the recommendations automatically become law after the 45 days. BENS' role now is to help affected communities think creatively about base reuse.

Acquiring New Solutions – Why does it take the Pentagon so long to adopt innovations that could streamline and speed up its massive supply and acquisitions systems? Why is it so hard for the Defense Department to work with the private sector? BENS is helping to answer these critical questions. As part of the Pentagon's Defense Acquisition Performance Assessment, BENS gathered a group of senior business executives Sept. 29 in Washington D.C. for a work session to explore how to get innovative technology into the war fighter's hands. The observations from this meeting and a planned second meeting on the West Coast will be forwarded to senior Pentagon officials for incorporation into the Performance Assessment.

Business Force News

Active Link – In the days immediately following Hurricane Katrina, BENS quickly became the “go-to” source for members and non-members alike as we worked to accelerate distribution of much needed emergency resources. Despite having no presence in the Gulf Coast Region, BENS worked to facilitate communication between businesses trying to donate resources and public agencies distributing aid. Katrina illustrated the need for the BENS Business Force model to coordinate public/private sector projects during times of disaster.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS AND BENS DEVELOPMENTS

Abizaid by the Bay – General John Abizaid, commander of American forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and 25 other countries stretching from the Horn of Africa to Central Asia will soon deploy to a less remote locale – San Francisco, where he will accept the BENS Eisenhower Award on Oct. 17. Among the speakers scheduled to pay tribute to Gen. Abizaid is H. Ross Perot, recipient of the Eisenhower Award in 2004. To join us for what will be an evening to remember, contact Jennie Moonis at (202) 296-2125 or jmoonis@bens.org.

Hail to the Chairman – BENS members and the Pentagon’s top brass honored retiring Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Richard Myers at a BENS reception in his honor Sept. 12 in Washington, D.C. Gen. Myers, whose service as chairman began less than a month after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, praised the military’s progress in conducting joint operations but said the Pentagon needs to improve coordination when other federal agencies are involved. “There is a lot of fruit there for an organization like BENS to harvest,” he suggested, thanking BENS members for their contributions to national security. BENS, in turn, thanks Paul Stern for making the evening possible. View photographs [here](#).

Follow the Money – We need a vigorous fight against terrorist finances, Rep. Sue Kelly (N.Y.) told BENS members during a Sept. 19 lunch in New York City. Kelly, founder of the Congressional Anti-Terrorist Financing Task Force, acknowledged the difficulty of tracking money-funneling networks, but argued that her taskforce’s efforts to highlight the issues and the cooperation of the private sector are critical components of success. She recognized BENS members’ contributions to FBI and Treasury Department anti-financing efforts.

Fonts of Wisdom – Hurricane Katrina was so destructive that as of Sept. 15 the local/state emergency response teams that usually provide the backbone of disaster relief were just becoming operational, according to Al Martinez-Fonts, head of the Department of Homeland Security’s Private Sector Office. Speaking to an overflow crowd of BENS members and guests Sept. 15 in Washington, D.C., Martinez-Fonts argued that the much-maligned Federal Emergency Management Agency should remain in DHS, but as a separate agency. He outlined the pre- and post-Hurricane Katrina challenges facing DHS officials as they continue reorganizing the agency. Martinez-Fonts advised those willing to donate business assets to the hurricane relief efforts to visit www.swern.gov.

Upcoming Events

- **New Jersey** – Breakfast with 9/11 Commission Chairman and former Governor Tom Kean, Oct. 12. Contact Nancy Hart at (866) 475-2085 or nhart@bens.org.
- **San Francisco** – Eisenhower Award dinner for **CENTCOM commander Gen. John Abizaid, US Army**, Oct. 17, The Stanford Court Hotel. Contact Jennie Moonis at (202) 296-2125 or jmoonis@bens.org.
- **Silicon Valley** – **BENS Policy Briefing** and luncheon for members and guests, Oct. 18, the Westin Palo Alto. Contact Anne Ferris at (650) 967-3676 or aferris@bens.org.
- **Dallas** – Lunch with **Vice Admiral John Cotton**, Chief of Naval Reserve, Oct. 21, Bent Tree Country Club. Contact Mike Hicks at (214) 560-2245 or mhicks@bens.org.
- **New York** – **Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman** will receive the Eisenhower Award on Nov. 3, The Intrepid. Contact Jennie Moonis at (202) 296-2125 or jmoonis@bens.org.
- **Atlanta** – **Visit to U.S Army Signal Center and Ft. Gordon**, Nov. 3. Contact Aimee Yrlas at (404) 220-1268 or ayrlas@bens.org.
- **Kansas City** – **Oakland Raiders @ Kansas City Chiefs**, Noon, Arrowhead Stadium, Nov. 6. Contact William Lawson at (816) 842-1778 or wlawson@bens.org.
- **San Francisco** – Tour of **Coast Guard Command Center and Vessel Traffic Service Center**, Nov. 8. Contact Anne Ferris at (650) 967-3676 or aferris@bens.org.
- **Washington, D.C.** – **BENS Annual Holiday Open House**, Dec. 7. Contact Jennie Moonis at (202) 296-2125 or jmoonis@bens.org.

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