



ARMY ACQUISITION REFORM



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DID YOU KNOW?

- The OUSD (A&T) is sponsoring a series of *one-hour on-line discussion forums with the Department's senior leaders during AR Week, March 17-21, 1997* at Internet Address: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/interact> .
- The Deputy Secretary of Defense signed a new DoD-wide *policy on "Contract Consolidation (Bundling)"* which requires consideration of the potential impacts on the small business community whenever consolidation is contemplated. The new policy may be viewed on the AR Home Page at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/ar/policy.htm>.
- The final rule was published requiring revision to FAR Part 13 to incorporate *special simplified procedures for the acquisition of commercial items* with a value greater than the simplified acquisition threshold (\$100K), but not greater than \$5M. The purpose of the revision is to vest contracting officers with additional procedural discretion to ensure that commercial item acquisitions in this dollar range may be solicited, offered, evaluated, and awarded in a simplified manner. This maximizes efficiency and economy while minimizing burden and administrative costs for both Government and industry.
- The DoDIG is conducting an *audit of the Purchasing of Commercial Products* to determine whether buying commands are purchasing commercial products to the maximum extent practicable. They will also determine whether contracting officers are conducting *market research* to identify commercial products that would meet mission requirements.
- The AAE is requesting that all Army contracting *personnel have access to the INTERNET* no later than **30 April 1997**.
- The Long Term Life Cycle Support (LTLCS) contract was modified to include the *FedNet Marketing Program*, which offers substantial discounts (up to 60%) to encourage Federal users to upgrade their telecommunications equipment. The first delivery order to be awarded under the FedNet (upgrade of SL-100 telephone switch in Saudi Arabia) saved \$1.18M. For more information call Mr. Everett at DSN 987-6581.