Pentagon Asserts Increased Value of DoD Information Analysis Centers During Times of Budgetary Uncertainty

DTIC Communications Team
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Fort Belvoir, VA – For more than 65 years, the Defense Department’s Information Analysis Centers (IACs) have provided an essential resource to affordably deliver data and analysis in support of the need for technical information supporting current operations. In a recent Federal Times article, Pentagon spokeswoman Maureen Schumann said the IACs allow the Pentagon “to reduce duplication and build on previous research, development and other technical needs.”

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) identified reduced duplication as an area where the federal government can achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness. In an April 2013 report, GAO asserts that “the government could potentially save tens of billions of dollars annually” by reducing fragmentation, duplication, and overlap. This assessment underscores the value of the IACs.

The IACs operate as a part of the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC), which supports their efforts, and provides additional technical data and research support for the Defense Department. In a recent memo discussing IAC operations under sequestration, DTIC and IAC leadership affirmed that “the IACs will continue to operate, providing an efficient mechanism for the department to continue its mission under the severe constraints of sequestration.” Pentagon spokeswoman Maureen Schumann agreed, indicating that “in this time of budgetary uncertainty, the importance of DoD’s IACs is actually enhanced.” She concluded, “IACs serve as a proven resource for maximizing the value of each dollar the department spends.”

Building on decades of experience, the IACs continue to adapt to the evolving needs of DoD. The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), in their case study on Better Buying Power, concluded that the on-going evolution of the IACs will only serve to enhance their value; according to the CSIS study, the IACs “will be positioned to create and sustain a focus on the Better Buying Power Initiative to improve affordability, productivity, and standardization within defense acquisition programs.”

More information on the IACs can be found at http://iac.dtic.mil