



NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Mall 3
Arlington, Virginia 22240-5291

Press Release 01-10
January 16, 2001
For External Release

DFAS Celebrates its 10th anniversary

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) celebrated its 10th anniversary Jan. 15.

DFAS was chartered in 1991 to help the Department of Defense (DoD) reform financial management and reduce costs.

In 1991 DFAS inherited 330 finance and accounting locations, over 324 finance and accounting systems and employed some 27,000 people. Today DFAS operates from only 26 locations, has reduced the number of accounting and finance systems in use to just 76 and has a current staffing of 18,400 people. Through these actions, and others, it is estimated that DFAS has saved DoD and the American taxpayer hundreds of millions of dollars to date.

Using technology the agency has been able to dramatically improve customer service. The DFAS of today is inherently different than the organization of ten years ago. For example, today contractors can submit invoices electronically and check on their payment status on line. DoD military members and civilians employees can change items on their pay records or view their Leave and Earning Statements on line. Huge financial documents can be shared electronically, making it easier and quicker to find data and reducing the likelihood of mistakes caused by rekeying data. And to assist families who rely on child support payments from military and civilian members, the agency has adopted DFAS Kids 1st which allows state support agencies to use web-based technology to input information and ultimately, to speed the processing of payments.

“Nothing matters more to the professionals of the world’s largest finance and accounting operation than serving the men the women of our nation’s Armed Forces as they so richly deserve. That is what drives our collective passion to be a world class finance and accounting organization and to become, as our motto states, a true ‘financial partner @work’ to our customers, the military Services,” said Thomas R. Bloom, DFAS director.

###

DFAS Statistics:

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service:

- Pays 5.4 million military, civilians, retirees and annuitants monthly.
- Pays out \$11 billion in monthly pay checks
- Pays 450,000 travel payments monthly
- Pays \$50 million a month in court orders
- Pays over \$7 billion monthly to Department of Defense contractors

For more information, please contact Cathy Ferguson, 703-607-2716.