



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership

March 2018

Washington Chapter



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President's Message

Krystyna Kolesar



As we emerge from our frigid not to mention blustery winter, we eagerly await the arrival of spring. Here in our region, we anticipate the annual cherry blossom extravaganza...a sure sign that better weather is just around the corner. I think I can speak for all of us as we anticipate longer days where we can enjoy some natural daylight during times outside our places of employment!

As we go to press, we are actively preparing for our long-awaited 2018 ASMC National Capital Region PDI with the theme: "BEYOND AUDIT – MISSION FOCUS!" Our program highlights the extensive range of our responsibilities as financial managers. I am pleased to announce that we reached our full registration limit so we will enjoy a packed house. Hopefully, many of you will have been able to participate in this outstanding event. Most especially, I want to recognize all the spectacular efforts of our stellar volunteers, notably Ms. Deb Del Mar who year-after-year delivers a tremendous forum with cutting-edge topics and a wonderful professional networking environment at the Ronald Reagan Building. She is joined by so many others--such as Ms. Rita Finney--who all generously give of their time and talents. Please thank them all! Also in acknowledgement of the terrific success of our NCR PDI, I offer a heartfelt thank you to our outstanding speakers and guests, motivated attendees, meritorious awardees, industrious exhibitors, and exceptional corporate sponsors. Our Washington DC Chapter-hosted NCR PDI could not succeed without the spectacular contributions of so many dedicated participants!

On the home front, we can take pride in the timely submission of the Department of Defense's FY2019 President's Budget—a product of our collective efforts. All Services participated in the annual frenzy associated with the budget rollout which occurred on 12 February. Despite the harrowing federal government shut-down due to the lapse in appropriations for FY2018, we ultimately received promising news regarding the recent budget deal for the Defense Department at \$700 billion in FY2018 and \$716 billion in FY2019; the FY2018 amount is well above what we planned and the FY2019 amount matches the President's Budget FY2019 submission. More good news as we received the recently released Secretary of Defense's National Defense Strategy (NDS) "to compete, deter, and win to preserve peace through strength," along with the corresponding NDS Implementation Guidance and the Defense Planning Guidance by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (both are classified). With this revised strategy, we will need to ensure that our resource allocation processes are driven by and in alignment with the NDS. As we know all too well, challenges remain as we rapidly approach the midyear point of our fiscal calendar with our next Continuing Resolution date of 23 March.

Continued next page.



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Date	Upcoming Events / Sponsor / Speaker / CPEs	Location
8 Mar 18	ASMC NCR PDI	Reagan Building, Washington DC
5 Apr 18	No Cost Training – Internal Controls Mini Course	Management Concepts, 919 18 th St NW Ste 800, Washington DC 20006
5 Apr 18	Washington Chapter Executive Board Meeting	
19 Apr 18	Monthly Meeting / Luncheon	Westin, Crystal City
Apr/May TBD	Honor Flight Volunteer Support	TBD
3 May 18	Washington Chapter Executive Board Meeting	
10 May 18	No Cost Training – Cost Benefit Analysis Mini Course	Management Concepts, 919 18 th St NW Ste 800, Washington DC 20006
17 May 18	Monthly Meeting / Luncheon	Westin, Crystal City
30 May – 1 Jun 18	National PDI	Denver, CO

President's Message Continued...

From our monthly Executive Board engagements, we are close to launching a revised pricing tier to encourage greater attendance at our monthly luncheon gathering. We continue to line up excellent senior executives who are in the forefront of financial management across the defense sector. Stay tuned! Our next Chapter luncheon engagement is hosted by the Army with guest speaker Mr. Michael Powers, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management & Comptroller on 19 April 2018. The Army has many challenging if not interesting insights to share with the broad Financial Management community.

Finally, I challenge you to help us evolve our Washington D.C. Chapter as a bedrock for your training and educational requirements! What more can we offer to you to expand your professional horizons in the field of financial management?

Best, Krystyna



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April 2018 Meeting



Speaker: *Mr. Michael Powers*

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (FM&C)

Time: *Social 11:30am, Lunch 11:45am*

Date: *Thursday, 19 April 2018*

Location: *Westin
1800 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202*



Mr. Michael Powers was designated the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) and became the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) on 30 July 2017. Previously, Mr. Powers was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget at the Department of Transportation, and Senior Advisor to the Chief Financial Officer at the Federal Aviation Administration. Before that he was President of MPowers Consulting LLC, a federal financial management consulting firm.

Mr. Powers was born at a US Army hospital in France. He grew up in Northern Virginia, and he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce at the University of Virginia, majoring in Accounting and Management Information Systems. He later earned a Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in Accounting Information Systems, at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Powers retired from the Federal Government in July 2011 after serving his country for 34 years. He spent seventeen years in the audit field, and seventeen years in accounting, financial, and resource management positions including three years as the Deputy Director of Financial Management at the Department of the Interior. Starting as a GS-3 Clerk/Typist while he was in college, he worked his way through the ranks working at positions in the Army, Navy, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, and Department of the Interior. Through these positions he gained a depth and breadth of experience and progressive responsibility in audit, comptrollership, internal controls, budgeting, finance, accounting, financial management systems, and audit readiness. He has held many key leadership positions: Deputy Director, Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Comptroller, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan; Deputy Director, Financial Management, Department of the Interior; Chief Financial Officer/Deputy G-8, US Army V Corps, Heidelberg, Germany; Director of Financial Management and Comptroller; Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Iraq; Supervisory/Staff Accountant, OSD Comptroller; System Accountant/Program Manager for Financial Reporting: ASA(FMC); Audit Manager: Internal Review, US Army, Europe, Heidelberg, Germany; Audit Manager: Financial Audit Division, EPA OIG; Chief, Internal Review, US Army, 8th Infantry Division, Bad Kreuznach, Germany; and eight years with the US Army Audit Agency in various locations. Mr. Powers has been a frequent public speaker at Professional Schools and Conferences worldwide.

Please register at WWW.WASHINGTON-ASMC.ORG

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February Meeting Recap

Guest Speaker: Craig Bennett

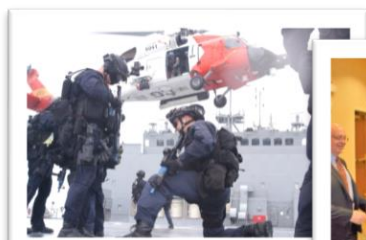
22 February 2018

Westin Hotel, Crystal City



Mr. Craig Bennett, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Deputy Assistant Commandant for Resources and Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the United States Coast Guard. He is the principal advisor to the Assistant Commandant for Resources/Chief Financial Officer and senior staff for all budgetary and financial management matters, and serves as the Coast Guard's Chief Risk Officer.

Mr. Bennett shared his thoughts on the funding challenges the Coast Guard faced during its response to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. Mr. Bennett discussed how the Coast Guard has been tested time and again when natural disasters such as these strike, and how they require the service to hit pause on its ongoing budget challenges to address these large scale events when they occur. During the months of August and September, three hurricanes impacted coast lines in Florida, Texas, and Puerto Rico requiring the mobilization of nearly 3,000 Coast Guard men and Women. This included 800 Reservists and 150 civilian personnel. Working in coordination with local, state, and federal partners resulted in the rescue of nearly 11,300 people and over 1,500 pets. Among the first to arrive, the Coast Guard realized the urgent need to support communications across local, state, and federal first responders. Coast Guard set-up an initial response command center at Coast Guard Headquarters where calls came in to Washington, DC and was routed to the first responders expediting the response time. The response came at a cost of resources above planned rates, requiring the service to identify Operating Expense (OE) funding late in FY17 when most funding had been spent, leading to a reprogramming of \$17M from soon to expire Acquisition, Construction, and Improvement (AC&I) funding following discussions with Congress and DHS. In addition, the Coast Guard continues to face major damage to infrastructure damaged by the storms. Over 16 units in impacted areas incurred significant damage, as well aids to navigation that were in need of replacement. In all, the Coast Guard has identified over \$650 million in needs to restore infrastructure, which only adds to the current backlog from damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Bennett closed by reminding those in attendance that resources are often required at inopportune periods of the budget cycle, but that its smart people like those in the room who ensure our first responders have sufficient resources on the front line to help those in need.



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2018 ASMC National Capital Region PDI

Beyond Audit: MISSION FOCUS



Our 2018 ASMC National Capital Region PDI is a partnership across key ASMC Washington metropolitan area chapters (Washington, Potomac, Mount Vernon) - to optimize our DoD enterprise education and learning, dialogue, networking, as well as enhance our fund-raising for charities and scholarships.

Last year our event sold out, with over 1,500 government and industry professionals attending this worthwhile conference to interact, share insights, and help advance critical business outcomes needed for our warfighters.

Our 2018 ASMC National Capital Region PDI theme is ***Beyond Audit: MISSION FOCUS***.

The DoD Financial Management triumvirate – military, civilian, and contractor professionals – has been challenged by DoD leadership to cut spending, smartly modernize, accelerate audit, and enhance professional advancement. We must embrace the real change -- essential to reform our business environment faster, cheaper, and with less risk -- in order to achieve operating effectiveness, auditability, and reprogram critical funds for national security.

Operational readiness begins with fiscal readiness!

PLEASE join us on Thursday March 8, 2018 at the Ronald Reagan Center in Washington D.C. for a terrific day of learning, dialogue, collaboration, networking, and certification [7 CPEs]. There is no cost for our government ASMC members to ensure attendance. Invited keynote speakers this year include the Honorable Patrick Shanahan, Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Honorable David Norquist, Under Secretary of Defense for Financial Management.

2018 NCR PDI Registration <https://secure3.rhq.com/ireg/public/index.cgi?evid=R18-03-08-2018>

SOLD OUT

Primary Charity for the 2018 NCR PDI



Healing Vets and Saving Pets

At Pets for Vets, we believe our country owes military veterans a debt of gratitude. Our troops have been brave but many of them have returned with physical and emotional injuries that have made it difficult to transition back to civilian life. Some estimates state that as many as 20% of returning military veterans suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

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Achievement Awards

Congratulations to the Winners of the 2017 ASMC Washington Chapter Achievement Awards!



Accounting: Mr. Stephen Nicholson

Acquisition & Cost Analysis: MAJ Scott Mras

Audit: CDR Matthew Manofsky

Budget: Ms. Sheila Burg

Finance: PO1 William Lewis

Intern/Trainee: Mr. Shane Ryan

Resource Management: CWO-3 John Remmel

Small Team – Regional Health Command – Atlantic/G-8 Tiger Team,
US Coast Guard

Team Lead: LTC John Lee

Ms. Cindy Logan

MS. Lanette Chavez

Mr. Carl Williams, Jr.

Mr. Jong Lee

Ms. Rebecca Castaneda

Ms. Denise Schultz

Ms. Jenny Kaczynski



Large Team – HQ Air Force, Operations & Maintenance Team

Team Lead: Col Scott Thompson

Lt Col William Gibson

Lt Col Matt Waggoner

Ms. Natalie Osgood

Maj Jason Coleman

Maj Christina Geller

Maj Kara Taylor

Ms Mari Bagensie

Maj Fiona Pelehac

Capt Ben Wright

Ms. Amber James



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Featured Article

"Old Technology" by Dr. Jennifer Miller



The holiday season has practically concluded now that we are three months into a new calendar year. The shipping is done, the shuffling done, and the sorting is yet to be done for spring cleaning. You have unwrapped gifts, exchanged for the right fit, and are well on your way to navigating all the new technology. With everything nearly settled, what do you do with your old technology? Do you donate it, trade it in, toss it, or do something else? I would like to take this opportunity to tout some of the options I have personally used and others I learned about as options for relinquishing old technology.

In with the new and out with the "still has use" idea leads me to recommend donating your hand-me-down technology. While this list is not conclusive or ordered in any particular manner, here are some ways to donate. Sprint has a 1Million Project where individuals can donate cell phones to help low-income high school students get connected to the web. As we all know, high school students increasingly need and rely on web connections. Communications provider Verizon has a Hopeline program for donation of phones and funds to support shelters for domestic violence survivors. Anyone can become a victim of domestic violence. One of the more popular programs among the defense community is the Cell Phones for Soldiers route, which accepts new and used, broken or cracked smartphones and cell phones for conversion to cash for funding talk time among serving troops and veterans. Hope Phones is yet another program, operated by Medic Mobile, an organization devoted to improving health in remote communities. Handheld device donations to Hope Phones are recycled for new phones for health care workers in 21 countries to help workers monitor disease outbreaks, track medical inventories, and register cases. Finally, T-Mobile hosts the #GivingTWOgether where old phones and tablets are recycled at a local T-Mobile store so T-Mobile can double the impact by matching the recycled value of devices, after costs, and donate all amounts to the Feeding America and Team Rubicon. Again, this list is not exhaustive of the donation options for technology devices.

If device donation is not desired, then perhaps you want to trade in a device or two. If you have devices that are in reasonable condition, then you might be able to reap cash and cash-value rewards. HP has a Trade In and Save Promotion I had used when my laptop's hard drive died. The laptop lacked further functionality for me, but HP cut me a check, covered the shipping to mail the laptop, and brokered a great deal on my next HP laptop. I presume the remainder of the laptop possessed value, perhaps for refurbished products. At this time, it appears HP is limiting the Trade In and Save program to select printing and imaging products to inspire individuals to upgrade to more sustainable and environmentally friendly product offerings. One perk of note is HP is accepting products other than their brand. On a broader hand, MaxBack is an opportunity to get quick cash for cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, fitness trackers, and Macbooks. Anyone can use the MaxBack website to obtain and accept a quote before sending in the device to MaxBack to receive payment in accordance with the actual device condition. On occasions, the device(s) may be quoted higher or lower than initially quoted; the owner reserves the right to accept or decline the newer quote without penalty. Both individuals and organizations can participate in MaxBack's program. My experience with MaxBack has been positive, but it is limited to trade in of cell phones only.

Continued next page.



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Featured Article

Continued...

Donation and or trade in options may not appeal or apply to everyone, so this leaves the options to a) hang on to devices that take up space or b) toss the devices. Of these two options, I encourage the latter and only if done so in an environmentally friendly manner to prevent wretched e-waste. Proper disposal can be done in many free or low-cost ways. Many outlets ranging from the bins at your local cell phone service providers and retail outlets to the mail-in types exist. Most of the organizations previously mentioned are happy to proceed with safe disposal too. The EPA hosts a website categorizing the electronic device in question, companies with programs, and additional information on disposal and recycle options here: <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/electronics-donation-and-recycling>. As a side, some programs seem persnickety about accepting batteries. Therefore, I recommend checking out Call2Recycle: <https://www.call2recycle.org/>

A final note about any option you pursue remains. Before releasing any technology from your possession be sure to take precautions. One such precaution is erasing any and all personal data from the device. Most recommendations include performing a factory reset and removing storage cards and SIM cards from the device. You could also procure the services of local businesses whether you want to destroy, back-up, or clean a device's content before it leaves your possession once and for all.

Dr. Jennifer A. Miller is a cost analyst and a deputy branch chief in the Resource Management Oversight Division of the National Guard Bureau's Joint Staff. She is a member of ASMC. The views expressed here are her own.

Training & Education

New Training Opportunity

In partnership with the Defense Acquisition University (DAU), the Washington Chapter is sponsoring the following workshop free to our members:

Shaping Future Program Success: Cost, Budget and Opportunity Considerations

When: Tuesday April 3, 2018

Where: Building 206
Classroom 62
Ft Belvoir, VA

Time: 10:00am-11:15am

CPEs: 1.5

Registration deadline: Tuesday March 27, 2018

To register send an email with: Your name, organization/company, grade/rank, telephone number and email address to Ms. Terry Placek: terryplacek@yahoo.com

Training

Knowledge
professional development
teaching of vocation
practical skills provided
• On-the-job training
• Off-the-job training



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Training & Education



The ASMC Washington Chapter is sponsoring the following mini-courses at no cost to our members.

Internal Control—Meeting Federal Requirements for Accountability— Mini-Course (F3589)

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Two Sessions Available:

- 8:30–11:30 am
- 12:30–3:30 pm

Register by March 23, 2018

This mini-course will help participants in reducing the risk of waste, fraud, and mismanagement within their agency, and supporting accountability efforts. Participants will learn what controls are and why they are important; the requirements, standards, and guidance available for internal controls; the importance of risk management; and the eight steps in an internal control process. In addition, the course will cover the relatively new requirement for Enterprise Risk Management (ERM), addressing risks to an agency's strategic objectives.

DoD Certification Level 2

Competency: Audit Concepts, Policies and Principles – 2.5 hrs (PL3)

Cost-Benefit Analysis—Mini-Course (F3588)

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Two Sessions Available:

- 8:30–11:30 am
- 12:30–3:30 pm

Register by April 27, 2018

This mini-course will introduce cost-benefit analysis and how it is used to support decision-making in the organization, thereby increasing public welfare and improving efficiency.

DoD Certification Level 2

Competency: Financial Management Analysis – 2.5 hrs (PL3)

Location: Management Concepts Washington, DC Training Center

919 18th Street NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20006

Across the street from the Farragut West Metro Station

To register, visit www.ManagementConcepts.com/ASMC

Due to high demand, please notify Management Concepts if you are not able to attend after registering.

888.545.8579 | www.ManagementConcepts.com

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Training & Education



FY18 Class Schedule



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY DEFENSE PROGRAMS

ACC 18-I 27 Nov–15 Dec 2017
ACC 18-II 5 Feb–23 Feb 2018
ACC 18-III 16 Apr–4 May 2018
ACC 18-IV 30 Jul–17 Aug 2018

ECC 18-I 8 Jan–26 Jan 2018
ECC 18-II 5 Mar–23 Mar 2018
ECC 18-III 7 May–25 May 2018
ECC 18-IV 4 Jun–22 Jun 2018

SRMC 9 Apr–13 Apr 2018

Defense Comptroller Program (DCP) - 2019
16 May 2018 – 31 July 2019



DEFENSE PROGRAMS

Army Comptroller Course (ACC) - 3 weeks
GS 9-12; LT-CPT; SFC-MSG
Entry Level Resource Management

Executive Comptroller Course (ECC) - 3 weeks
GS 12-13; CPT-MAJ; MSG-SGM
Advanced Resource Management

Senior Resource Managers Course (SRMC) - 1 week
GS 14-15; LTC-COL; SGM
Senior Level Resource Management

Defense Comptroller Program (DCP) - 14 months
GS 11-14; CPT-MAJ; SFC-MSG
Dual-Master Degree Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Command CJEC member

Army Comptroller Proponency Office (ASAFM.ARMY.MIL)
Syracuse University Defense Programs (FAMACHIN@SYR.EDU)

Army POC: tawanda.patton.civ@mail.mil

Other Services and Private Sector POC: famachin@syr.edu (315) 443-2898

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ASMC National News



American Society of Military Comptrollers

To promote education, training and professional development in all aspects of military comptrollership.

[Click here to access the National ASMC home page](#)



ASMC National 2017 PDI took place May 31 – June 2, 2017 in San Diego, California. Presentation slides are available at <http://pdi2017.org/workshop-slides>.

ASMC National 2018 PDI will be held May 30 – June 1 in Denver, Colorado!

More information about **PDI 2018** will be posted as soon as it is available.



Upcoming Training Events

[Open Enrollment Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course \(EDFMTC\)](#)

March 12 2018

Washington, DC (Graduate School USA)

[Centrally-Funded EDFMT Course](#)

March 19 2018

Washington, DC

[Centrally-Funded EDFMT Course](#)

March 19 2018

Bethesda, MD

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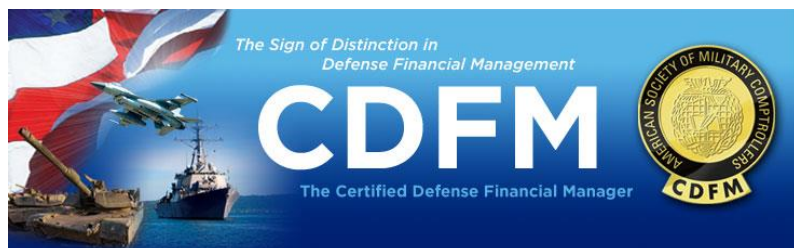


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ASMC offers the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) educational program and certification designation to those persons desiring to demonstrate proficiency in the core aspects of Defense Financial Management.

For more information, visit: <http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/>

Congratulations to our newest CDFMs!



Jennifer Allen
Nathan Blouse
John Burke
Susan Cash
Nathan Fischer
Wonki Hong
Ledarius Johnson
Daniel Khaw
Jeremy McReynolds

Stephen Morgan
Jason Nemeth
Carmel Osborne
Michael Pomponi
Mark Rinaldi
Melissa Simmons
Ryan Wharton
Ariane Whittemore
Lisa Wineman

While most candidates in the CDFM program are civilian or military/reserve members of the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps or employees of defense contractors or suppliers, the CDFM program is open to all candidates who have a high school diploma (or equivalent) and meet the following work experience qualifications:

Have the required number of years of defense-related financial management experience outlined below:

- **Two (2) years if you hold an Associate's degree or higher;** or
- **Three (3) years if you do not have a degree.**

OR

Do not have defense-related financial management experience, but can meet the following criteria outlined below:

- **Four (4) years of Federal government-related financial management experience;** and
- **An Associate's degree or higher.**

There are three steps involved with earning your CDFM:

1. Enroll in the CDFM Program. Your enrollment is valid for two (2) years, during which time you must take, and successfully pass, the three CDFM module examinations.

2. Submit Your Verification of Financial Management Experience Form. This form, which must be signed by a supervisor who can verify your work experience, must be returned to ASMC after enrolling in the CDFM program. You do not have to submit this form prior to taking a CDFM examination, but it is required prior to the awarding of the CDFM designation.

3. Purchase and Schedule the CDFM Examinations. Be sure to carefully – and completely – read the criteria associated with each testing option for the CDFM examinations. Failure to do so can result in the purchase of the wrong CDFM examination and/or the inability to test at your preferred location



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Treasurer Mr. Steven Birk, Steven.A.Birk.Civ@mail.mil, 703-693-7336

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DoD Assistant Secretary vacant

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To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership

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Washington Chapter



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