

Adm. Owens on the Defense Budget

“Return to the defense spending heights of the mid-1980s is not necessary to win the war on terrorism or to transform our armed forces. In fact, it could be quite counterproductive.

Availability of such large sums of money will reduce incentives to eliminate costly redundancies in our force structure ‘tooth,’ but particularly in the ‘tail’ of defense bureaucracy and support organizations. The truth is that we already have all the money for defense we need, so long as we undertake real reform and spend it better.”

—Admiral William A. Owens

former Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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