

To Our Readers

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, WE HOPE we will be out of the coronavirus woods and on our way to national recovery—or at least see the beginning of the end of this episode.

Because of a widespread closure of normal government office hours, the final activities in editing, assembling, and illustrating this issue were largely done by teleworking from the respective homes of the staff members. Although an unwelcome event, and one bringing many tragedies in its wake, the coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated the resilience and readiness of the United States Government—including, importantly, the Department of Defense. Lessons learned and adaptations made in this crisis will go far to informing our preparations in the event of any future such event—be it natural or manmade.

We have seen the military respond to a national crisis in a unique way to protect the homeland from the invisible

enemy—a natural contagion. It is hoped that experiencing and surviving this crisis will help us rediscover our fundamental unity and common humanity, as well as perhaps a broader appreciation of national defense in a time of crisis.

We look forward to returning to our normal posts soon. We are interested in hearing more from our readers and our contributors about problems encountered and lessons learned in the field of defense acquisitions. As we move forward with the new Adaptive Acquisition Framework, we hope more members of the workforce will provide examples of how they have been able to use the flexibilities provided to good effect—or of specific issues, if any, confronted in doing so.

Best wishes to all of you out there.

—The editor and staff of Defense Acquisition magazine.