

CASE STUDY: WHS Iraq and Afghanistan



CHALLENGE

The United States is engaged in costly wars in Iraq and Afghanistan which require hundreds of thousands of combat troops, and significant investments in logistical and administrative systems to support the war operations. Logistical and administrative support cost billions of dollars and involves a broad array of contracting and procurement actions involving tens of thousands of contractors and civilian government personnel who are deployed to meet contingent circumstances. The Department of Defense (DOD) needed accurate and reliable information on how its logistical and administrative systems were performing in Afghanistan and Iraq and formed the Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan (CWC/IA) to gather and analyze relevant data and present recommendations in a series of reports. DOD's Washington Headquarters Service (WHS) retained KAI to provide research and analytical support services to the CWC/IA.

SOLUTION

KAI provided senior level subject matter experts, as well as analysts to assist the CWC/IA assess data and performance in four areas: Defense Contingency Workforce Mix, Contract and Contractor Data, Federal Civilian Deployment Policy, and Contingency Contracting Officer's Representatives and Contracting Officers. KAI's personnel engaged in a wide variety of activities, which included the following: research into DoD's strategic planning and workforce doctrine; reviewing selected data systems supporting logistics, security and reconstruction; analyzing policy, legal, regulatory and administrative barriers to employing civilian government personnel in wartime contingency situations, and compiling "lessons learned" on reducing and eliminating ineffective acquisition policies.

RESULTS

Working within short time frames, KAI successfully prepared and timely delivered a number of critical reports in the four tasking areas. These reports were the basis for key CWC/IA recommendations to change policies, practices and processes supporting wartime administrative and logistical functions. These recommendations should provide the framework for increasing the acquisition of administrative and logistical support to our combat troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.