

Biography of Mr. Peter M. Velz

Mr. Peter M. Velz is the Director, Afghanistan in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense (Policy), a position he has held since January, 2013. He is responsible for developing policy on and conducting oversight of the bilateral security relationship with Afghanistan focused on efforts to develop the Afghan security ministries and their forces, including pronency of the \$4B annual Afghanistan Security Forces Fund.

From January 2008 to January 2013 he was on the staff of the Assistant Secretary of the Army(Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) as the Director of Acquisition Program Protection Policy. In this position, he created and led the Army Defense Industrial Base Cyber Security Task Force. He also led the effort to consolidate multiple procurements by various Department of Defense entities of Russian Mi-17 helicopters totaling over \$1 billion, resulting in establishment of the Nonstandard Rotary Wing Program Office within PEO Aviation. He also served as an advisor for Secretary of the Army task forces on restructuring the Army acquisition enterprise and on transforming Headquarters, Department of the Army.

From December 2003 to January 2008, he served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as an Iraq desk officer and was the principal author of DoD's quarterly report to Congress on "Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq." He was also OSD's lead staff expert for the multi-billion-dollar program for developing the Iraqi Ministries of Defense and Interior and their forces.

Mr. Velz worked in the private sector from 1999 to 2003 as Managing Director of a boutique investment bank with operations focused in Asia. From 1985 to 1999, Mr. Velz served in the intelligence community as an economic analyst.

A Captain in the Navy Reserve, he is currently the Deputy Commander, Navy Information Force Reserve Region Northwest, headquartered at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Silverdale, WA, with responsibility for training and mobilizing more than 300 reserve intelligence, information warfare, cyber, cryptological, meteorology and oceanography personnel assigned to Navy Reserve units across the Pacific Northwest. From 2007-2012 he was Commanding Officer of Naval Reserve Naval Criminal Investigative Service 2794, San Diego, CA and Executive Officer and Operations Officer of Office of Naval Intelligence units in Suitland, MD. Prior to that, he served in numerous other Navy Reserve units since receiving a Direct Commission in 1988.

Mr. Velz was awarded the Office of Secretary of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Award and the Army's Superior Civilian Service Award has earned numerous Intelligence Community commendations. His military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Mr. Velz holds an M.A. in Economics from the University of Connecticut and a B.B.A. in Economics from Temple University.