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Recommendations for correcting issues with DoD's "use it or lose it"

Allan Burman, commissioner at the Section 809 Panel, discusses fixing use it or lose it at the Department of Defense, and other recommendations from the panel's third report.

In the Section 809 Panel's third volume, they wrapped up 93 recommendations to streamline the Department of Defense's acquisition system. Much of the latest volume's focus was on fixing the "use it or lose it" nature of some defense procurements. **Allan Burman**, commissioner at the Section 809 Panel, says that the Pentagon's operation and maintenance funds create complicated spending sprees. "Those funds are available just for a year, and at the end of the year, they disappear. The concern is that you're not necessarily going to be making great decisions if you hold a lot of money until the end of the year and then are forced in a surge approach to try to buy a whole bunch of things. You may not be getting the most optimal purchases for the use of your money," Burman said.