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NEWS RELEASE

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DNI APPOINTS FIRST DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Arthur H. House, a veteran communicator with extensive experience in the public and private sectors, will serve as the first Director of Communications for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, reporting to Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair.

Director Blair created the position to combine public affairs and legislative affairs functions to ensure consistent, effective communication to all audiences. House is a Simsbury, CT, businessman with more than 35 years of experience in communications, government, banking, insurance and manufacturing.

“The ODNI and the Intelligence Community need to improve understanding of and confidence in the vital work performed by the thousands of Americans who work in intelligence,” said Director Blair. “We need to communicate effectively with Congress, the media and the American public. Art House’s background in government, business, the academic world and communications equips him well to take on this important challenge.”

House came to the ODNI from Connecticut-based Webster Bank where he was the managing director of public affairs, providing strategic and public affairs advice to Webster’s Chairman and CEO. He also directed Webster’s work in public issues, internal and external communications and community affairs.

His extensive communications and government relations background includes work with international public affairs consulting firm Meridian Worldwide, Tenneco, CIGNA and Aetna Insurance.

House’s government experience includes time as a White House Fellow serving on the National Security Council staff in 1975 and 1976, and later as the chief of staff to U.S. Senator Abraham Ribicoff and staff director to the U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Robert C. Byrd. He was also a legislative assistant to Senator Christopher Dodd and was a Congressional adviser to the United States Mission to the United Nations.

House began his professional career as Dean of Students and Director of Admissions of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He has been a visiting faculty member at the National University of the Congo, Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and the University of Connecticut graduate school.

House is a cum laude graduate of Tufts College and holds a Ph.D. in international relations from the Fletcher School.

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