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Rummy's Rules

by Michael in New York on 8/11/2004 02:15:00 AM

The Atlantic Monthly (one of the best magazines around) points out in its current September issue that when Donald Rumsfeld became Sec. of Defense, the Department of Defense web site posted "Rumsfeld's Rules" for "government, business and life." Since only subscribers can access AM's website, I've posted the rules they republished below.

"Establish good relations between the departments of Defense and State, the National Security Council, CIA and the Office of Management and Budget."

"Don't divide the world into 'them' and 'us.' Avoid infatuation with or resentment of the press, the Congress, rivals, or opponents. Accept them as facts. They have their jobs and you have yours."

"Don't do or say things you would not like to see on the front page of the Washington Post."

"If you foul up, tell the president and correct it fast. Delay only compounds mistakes."

"Be able to resign. It will improve your value to the president and do wonders for your performance."

"Your performance depends on your people. Select the best, train them, and back them. When errors occur, give sharper guidance. If errors persist or if the fit feels wrong, help them move on."

"It is easier to get into something than to get out of it."

Yep, the irony comes fast and furious.



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