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# MONTH IN REVIEW: MARCH 2003

Reports, Testimony,  
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**For information on specific reports, please contact appropriate GAO staff. GAO publishes the names of key contacts and their telephone numbers in each report.**

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# Month in Review: March 2003

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## Decisions and Opinions

### **African Development Foundation: Retention of Funds from Strategic Partnership Agreements with Certain African Governments**

B-300218, March 17, 2003 (4 pages).

### **Bureau of Land Management: Payment of Printing Costs by the Milwaukee Field Office**

B-290900, March 18, 2003 (4 pages).

### **Calculating Overtime Pay Rates for Government Printing Office Employees**

B-288992, March 17, 2003 (4 pages).

### **Cherokee Information Services, Inc.**

B-291718, March 3, 2003 (3 pages).

### **Draft Legislation Concerning an Electric Reliability Organization**

B-360241, March 18, 2003 (23 pages).

### **EADS North America, Inc.**

B-291805, March 26, 2003 (4 pages).

### **GROH GmbH**

B-291980, March 26, 2003 (3 pages).

### **Gemmo Impianti SpA**

B-290427.2, March 12, 2003 (7 pages).

### **LBM, Inc.**

B-291775, March 21, 2003 (5 pages).

**Landoll Corporation**

B-291381, B-291381.2, B-291381.3, December 23, 2002 (12 pages).

**MFVega & Associates, LLC**

B-291605.3, March 25, 2003 (6 pages).

**Mnemonics, Inc.**

B-290961, October 28, 2002 (5 pages).

**Nuclear Regulatory Commission: Reimbursing Employees for Official Usage of Personal Cell Phones**

B-291076, March 6, 2003 (2 pages).

**Performance Excavators, Inc.**

B-291771, March 17, 2003 (3 pages).

**Preferred Systems Solutions**

B-291750, February 24, 2003 (5 pages).

**Prime Environmental Services Company**

B-291148.3, March 4, 2003 (6 pages).

**QuanTech, Inc.--Costs**

B-291226.3, March 17, 2003 (4 pages).

**Raytheon Company**

B-291449, January 7, 2003 (13 pages).

**Relief of Accountable Officer Sally V. Slocum--American Embassy, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo**

B-288284.2, March 7, 2003 (4 pages).

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**Request for Relief from Financial Liability for Mick Barrus**

B-288166, March 11, 2003 (4 pages).

**Rodgers Travel, Inc.**

B-291785, March 12, 2003 (4 pages).

**SAMS El Segundo, LLC**

B-291620, B-291620.2, February 3, 2003 (16 pages).

**SAMS El Segundo, LLC**

B-291620.3, February 25, 2003 (13 pages).

**Science & Management Resources, Inc.**

B-291803, March 17, 2003 (3 pages).

**Systems Research Group, Inc.**

B-291855, March 21, 2003 (7 pages).

**Use of Appropriated Funds to Pay for the Relocation of Utilities**

B-300538, March 24, 2003 (7 pages).

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**Education**

**Department of Education: Status of Efforts to Address Major Management Challenges**

[GAO-03-531T](#), March 12, 2003 (12 pages).

**Disadvantaged Students: Fiscal Oversight of Title I Could Be Improved**

[GAO-03-377](#), February 28, 2003 (36 pages).

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## Employment

### **Unemployment Insurance: States' Use of the 2002 Reed Act Distribution**

[GAO-03-496](#), March 6, 2003 (42 pages).

### **Unemployment Insurance: States' Use of the 2002 Reed Act Distribution**

[GAO-03-567T](#), March 20, 2003 (18 pages).

### **Workforce Training: Employed Worker Programs Focus on Business Needs, but Revised Performance Measures Could Improve Access for Some Workers**

[GAO-03-353](#), February 14, 2003 (46 pages).

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## Energy

### **Department of Energy: Status of Contract and Project Management Reforms**

[GAO-03-570T](#), March 20, 2003 (19 pages).

### **Federal Energy Management: Facility and Vehicle Energy Efficiency Issues**

[GAO-03-545T](#), March 12, 2003 (14 pages).

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## Environmental Protection

### **Aviation and the Environment: Strategic Framework Needed to Address Challenges Posed by Aircraft Emissions**

[GAO-03-252](#), February 28, 2003 (70 pages).

### **Environmental Protection: Recommendations for Improving the Underground Storage Tank Program**

[GAO-03-529T](#), March 5, 2003 (12 pages).

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**South Florida Ecosystem Restoration: Improved Science Coordination Needed to Increase the Likelihood of Success**

[GAO-03-518T](#), March 26, 2003 (14 pages).

**South Florida Restoration: Task Force Needs to Improve Science Coordination to Increase the Likelihood of Success**

[GAO-03-345](#), March 18, 2003 (58 pages).

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**Federal Agency Major Rules**

**Department of Agriculture, Commodity Credit Corporation: Conservation Reserve Program--Farmable Wetlands Pilot Program**

[GAO-03-522R](#), March 12, 2003 (4 pages).

**Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: Medicare Program; Physician Fee Schedule Update for Calendar Year 2003**

[GAO-03-533R](#), March 14, 2003 (4 pages).

**Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary: Health Insurance Reform: Security Standards**

[GAO-03-510R](#), March 6, 2003 (4 pages).

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**Financial Institutions**

**Investment Banks: The Role of Firms and Their Analysts with Enron and Global Crossing**

[GAO-03-511](#), March 17, 2003 (59 pages).

**Mutual Funds: Information on Trends in Fees and Their Related Disclosure**

[GAO-03-551T](#), March 12, 2003 (20 pages).



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## Financial Management

### **Data Mining: Results and Challenges for Government Program Audits and Investigations**

[GAO-03-591T](#), March 25, 2003 (11 pages).

### **FAA Purchase Cards: Weak Controls Resulted in Instances of Improper and Wasteful Purchases and Missing Assets**

[GAO-03-405](#), March 21, 2003 (54 pages).

### **Financial Audit: American Battle Monuments Commission's Financial Statements for Fiscal Years 2002 and 2001**

[GAO-03-444](#), February 28, 2003 (32 pages).

### **Financial Audit: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Funds' 2002 and 2001 Financial Statements**

[GAO-03-543](#), March 28, 2003 (61 pages).

### **Financial Audit: Independent Counsel Expenditures for the Six Months Ended September 30, 2002**

[GAO-03-445](#), March 31, 2003 (22 pages).

### **Financial Audit: Senate Restaurants Revolving Fund for Fiscal Years 2002 and 2001**

[GAO-03-410](#), March 14, 2003 (15 pages).

### **Financial Management: DOD's Metrics Program Provides Focus for Improving Performance**

[GAO-03-457](#), March 28, 2003 (37 pages).

### **Medicare Trust Funds Actuarial Estimates: Efforts Have Been Made to Improve Internal Control over Projection Process but Some Weaknesses Remain**

[GAO-03-247R](#), March 4, 2003 (26 pages).

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**Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation: Statutory Limitation on Administrative Expenses Does Not Provide Meaningful Control**

[GAO-03-301](#), February 28, 2003 (37 pages).

**Social Security Trust Funds Actuarial Estimates: Internal Control over Projection Process Needs Improvement**

[GAO-03-246R](#), March 4, 2003 (24 pages).

**The National Park Service: Actions Needed to Improve Travel Cost Management**

[GAO-03-354](#), February 13, 2003 (20 pages).

**Tobacco Settlement: States' Allocations of Fiscal Years 2002 and 2003 Master Settlement Agreement Payments**

[GAO-03-407](#), February 28, 2003 (115 pages).

**Transmittal of Comptroller General Decision on the Transportation Security Administration's Time and Attendance Approval System**

[GAO-03-532R](#), March 11, 2003 (11 pages).

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**Government  
Operations**

**Civil Penalties: Agencies Unable to Fully Adjust Penalties for Inflation Under Current Law**

[GAO-03-409](#), March 14, 2003 (49 pages).

**Contract Management: Commercial Use of Share-in-Savings Contracting**

[GAO-03-327](#), January 31, 2003 (14 pages).

**Contract Management: OFPP Policy Regarding Share-in-Savings Contracting Pursuant to the E-Government Act of 2002**

[GAO-03-552R](#), March 24, 2003 (2 pages).

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**Department of Health and Human Services: Controls over Travel Program Are Generally Effective, but Some Improvements Are Needed**

[GAO-03-334](#), February 21, 2003 (30 pages).

**Electronic Procurement: Business Strategy Needed for GSA's Advantage System**

[GAO-03-328](#), February 19, 2003 (9 pages).

**Fiscal Year 2004 Budget Request: U.S. General Accounting Office**

[GAO-03-580T](#), March 27, 2003 (23 pages).

**Formula Grants: 2000 Census Redistributes Federal Funding Among States**

[GAO-03-178](#), February 24, 2003 (31 pages).

**Management Reform: Continuing Progress in Implementing Initiatives in the President's Management Agenda**

[GAO-03-556T](#), March 26, 2003 (21 pages).

**Postal Service: Employee Issues Associated with the Potential Closure of the San Mateo IT Center**

[GAO-03-205](#), January 31, 2003 (55 pages).

**Small Business Contracting: Concerns About the Administration's Plan to Address Contract Bundling Issues**

[GAO-03-559T](#), March 18, 2003 (4 pages).

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**Health**

**Hospital Emergency Departments: Crowded Conditions Vary among Hospitals and Communities**

[GAO-03-460](#), March 14, 2003 (64 pages).

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**Medicare Provider Enrollment: Opportunities to Enhance Program Integrity Efforts**

[GAO-03-185](#), March 17, 2003 (23 pages).

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**Homeland Security**

**Border Security: Challenges in Implementing Border Technology**

[GAO-03-546T](#), March 12, 2003 (16 pages).

**Combating Terrorism: Observations on National Strategies Related to Terrorism**

[GAO-03-519T](#), March 3, 2003 (25 pages).

**Critical Infrastructure Protection: Efforts of the Financial Services Sector to Address Cyber Threats**

[GAO-03-173](#), January 30, 2003 (53 pages).

**Food-Processing Security: Voluntary Efforts Are Under Way, but Federal Agencies Cannot Fully Assess Their Implementation**

[GAO-03-342](#), February 14, 2003 (48 pages).

**Homeland Security: EPA's Management of Clean Air Act Chemical Facility Data**

[GAO-03-509R](#), March 14, 2003 (7 pages).

**Homeland Security: Voluntary Initiatives Are Under Way at Chemical Facilities, but the Extent of Security Preparedness Is Unknown**

[GAO-03-439](#), March 14, 2003 (41 pages).

**Nuclear Regulation: Emergency Preparedness Issues at the Indian Point 2 Nuclear Power Plant**

[GAO-03-528T](#), March 10, 2003 (13 pages).

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## Income Security

### **Retirement Income Data: Improvements Could Better Support Analysis of Future Retirees' Prospects**

[GAO-03-337](#), March 21, 2003 (81 pages).

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## Information Management

### **Contracting for Information Technology Services**

[GAO-03-384R](#), February 14, 2003 (7 pages).

### **Customs Service Modernization: Automated Commercial Environment Progressing, but Further Acquisition Management Improvements Needed**

[GAO-03-406](#), February 28, 2003 (55 pages).

### **Electronic Government: Success of the Office of Management and Budget's 25 Initiatives Depends on Effective Management and Oversight**

[GAO-03-495T](#), March 13, 2003 (28 pages).

### **Federal Reserve Banks: Areas for Improvement in Computer Controls**

[GAO-03-525R](#), March 14, 2003 (4 pages).

### **File-Sharing Programs: Child Pornography Is Readily Accessible over Peer-to-Peer Networks**

[GAO-03-537T](#), March 13, 2003 (20 pages).

### **File-Sharing Programs: Peer-to-Peer Networks Provide Ready Access to Child Pornography**

[GAO-03-351](#), February 20, 2003 (32 pages).

### **Information Technology Training: Practices of Leading Private-Sector Companies**

[GAO-03-390](#), January 31, 2003 (63 pages).

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**Information Technology: Observations on Department of Defense's Draft Enterprise Architecture**

[GAO-03-571R](#), March 28, 2003 (10 pages).

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**International Affairs**

**Overseas Presence: Conditions of Overseas Diplomatic Facilities**

[GAO-03-557T](#), March 20, 2003 (28 pages).

**Status of Reforms and Budgets of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**

[GAO-03-565R](#), March 28, 2003 (22 pages).

**Weapons of Mass Destruction: Additional Russian Cooperation Needed to Facilitate U.S. Efforts to Improve Security at Russian Sites**

[GAO-03-482](#), March 24, 2003 (94 pages).

**Weapons of Mass Destruction: Observations on U.S. Threat Reduction and Nonproliferation Programs in Russia**

[GAO-03-526T](#), March 5, 2003 (11 pages).

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**Justice and Law Enforcement**

**Traffic Enforcement: Funding of Automatic Red-Light and Speed Enforcement Technologies**

[GAO-03-408R](#), February 21, 2003 (22 pages).

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**National Defense**

**Army Stryker Brigades: Assessment of External Logistics Support Should Be Documented for the Congressionally Mandated Review of the Army's Operational Evaluation Plan**

[GAO-03-484R](#), March 25, 2003 (11 pages).

**Contract Management: DLA Properly Implemented Best Value Contracting for Clothing and Textiles and Views and Supplier Base as Uncertain**

[GAO-03-440](#), February 28, 2003 (18 pages).

**DOD Business Systems Modernization: Improvements to Enterprise Architecture Development and Implementation Efforts Needed**

[GAO-03-458](#), February 28, 2003 (64 pages).

**DOD Personnel: DOD Actions Needed to Strengthen Civilian Human Capital Strategic Planning and Integration with Military Personnel and Sourcing Decisions**

[GAO-03-475](#), March 28, 2003 (33 pages).

**Defense Acquisition: Advanced SEAL Deliver System Program Needs Increased Oversight**

[GAO-03-442](#), March 31, 2003 (27 pages).

**Defense Health Care: Oversight of the Adequacy of TRICARE's Civilian Provider Network Has Weaknesses**

[GAO-03-592T](#), March 27, 2003 (12 pages).

**Defense Infrastructure: Personnel Reductions Have Not Hampered Most Commissaries' Store Operations and Customer Service**

[GAO-03-417](#), March 6, 2003 (19 pages).

**Military Personnel: A Strategic Approach Is Needed to Improve Joint Officer Development**

[GAO-03-548T](#), March 19, 2003 (16 pages).

**Military Personnel: Preliminary Observations Related to Income, Benefits, and Employer Support for Reservist During Mobilizations**

[GAO-03-573T](#), March 19, 2003 (19 pages).

**Military Personnel: Preliminary Observations Related to Income, Benefits, and Employer Support for Reservists During Mobilizations**

[GAO-03-549T](#), March 19, 2003 (20 pages).

**Military Readiness: New Reporting System Is Intended to Address Long-Standing Problems, but Better Planning Is Needed**

[GAO-03-456](#), March 28, 2003 (30 pages).

**Military Transformation: Progress and Challenges for DOD's Advanced Distributed Learning Programs**

[GAO-03-393](#), February 28, 2003 (63 pages).

**Military and Veterans' Benefits: Observations on the Concurrent Receipt of Military Retirement and VA Disability Compensation**

[GAO-03-575T](#), March 27, 2003 (13 pages).

**Sourcing and Acquisition: Challenges Facing the Department of Defense**

[GAO-03-574T](#), March 19, 2003 (14 pages).

**Tactical Aircraft: DOD Needs to Better Inform Congress about Implications of Continuing F/A-22 Cost Growth**

[GAO-03-280](#), February 28, 2003 (28 pages).

**Tactical Aircraft: DOD Should Reconsider Decision to Increase F/A-22 Production Rates While Development Risks Continue**

[GAO-03-431](#), March 14, 2003 (25 pages).

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**Social Services**

**Child Welfare: HHS Could Play a Greater Role in Helping Child Welfare Agencies Recruit and Retain Staff**

[GAO-03-357](#), March 31, 2003 (51 pages).



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**Food Stamp Employment and Training Program: Better Data Needed to Understand Who Is Served and What the Program Achieves**

[GAO-03-388](#), March 12, 2003 (41 pages).

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**Tax Policy and Administration**

**Tax Administration: Federal Payment Levy Program Measures, Performance, and Equity Can Be Improved**

[GAO-03-356](#), March 6, 2003 (30 pages).

**Tax Administration: IRS and TIGTA Should Evaluate Their Processing of Employee Misconduct under Section 1203**

[GAO-03-394](#), February 14, 2003 (56 pages).

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**Transportation**

**Aviation Security: FAA Needs to Update Curriculum and Certification Requirements for Aviation Mechanics**

[GAO-03-317](#), March 6, 2003 (56 pages).

**Coast Guard: Comprehensive Blueprint Needed to Balance and Monitor Resource Use and Measure Performance for All Missions**

[GAO-03-544T](#), March 12, 2003 (25 pages).

**Commercial Aviation: Issues Regarding Federal Assistance for Enhancing Air Service to Small Communities**

[GAO-03-540T](#), March 11, 2003 (17 pages).

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**Veterans Affairs**

**VA Health Care: Improvements Needed in Hepatitis C Disease Management Practices**

[GAO-03-136](#), January 31, 2003 (22 pages).

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**VA Health Care: Third-Party Collections Rising as VA Continues to Address Problems in Its Collections Operations**

[GAO-03-145](#), January 31, 2003 (18 pages).

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