

Mr, DoD OGC

From: sluder, chris
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2008 2:24 PM
To: Hadjlyane, Paul
Subject: FW: News Article - Update
Signed By: [REDACTED]@dcma.mil

Attachments: Safety report Paul Dickinson Exec Summary 18 Feb 07.doc; Safety Report Paul Dickinson final 18 Feb 07.doc; Fire Summary - Northern Iraq.ppt; RE: Safety Concerns



Safety report Paul Dickinson E...



Safety Report Paul Dickinson ...



Fire Summary - Northern Iraq.p...



RE: Safety Concerns

Christian D. Sluder
Acting Director, Contract Operations
DCMA International
Office: [REDACTED] //DSN [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
SIPR: [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: sluder, chris
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 6:13 PM
To: 'Kaczmariski, David LTC'; kirk.vollmecke [REDACTED]
Cc: Holland, George, LTC, USA; Milner, Michael LTC; Graff, David J. CAPT USN; Azemar, Jacques [EXT]; Azemar, Jacques
Subject: RE: News Article - Update

Extract from DCMA Iraq 20 Dec SITREP

DFAC Fire Analysis: The contractor experienced a fire explosion in Dining Facility (DFAC) operations at Camps Al Asad and Speicher. As a result, the contractor instituted an immediate safety "stand down" and began an assessment and a risk analysis of DFAC Operations in Theater. At the same time, the contractor initiated an effort to eliminate or reduce all possible causes and brought in an independent investigator to review and determine the causes of the incidents. As of this report, the independent investigation is still in progress. In the meantime, DCMA Iraq did receive a copy of the local investigation conducted by KBR on the ground. Based on the KBR Iraq investigation, the major possible causes identified include inadequate grounding, inadequate fuel tank, insufficient distance between the tank and the generator, and inadequate venting on the tank. Pursuant to these incidents, a number of other safety related activities were initiated, including:

1.) DCMA Safety Assessment-Mr. Paul Dickinson DCMA Denver Contract Safety Manager, arrived in Iraq on 18 November 2006 to provide a safety status assessment on KBR operations. To date, he has visited twelve Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and Camps. While we expect a full report at the end of Mr Dickinson's assessment, thus far, he has been focusing on the contractor's accident investigation process, the uneven flow of pertinent safety lessons learned within the contractor and throughout the command, as well as other safety issues concerning subcontractor management. While in Iraq, Mr Dickinson has already reached out to a number of organizations, including the US Army Technical Center for Explosive Safety (USATCES), MNC-I, Army Corps of Engineers, AFFES, 25 ID, 9th CAV, US Embassy, and Navy Safety personnel assigned in theater.

2.) Generator Fuel Tank Assessment-On November 13th, KBR conducted a systematic assessment of all generator fuel tanks in proximity

of High Density Population facilities. The assessment was comprehensive in nature and involved a safety review of over 4000 generator fuel tanks. Following the survey, immediate risk reduction measures were performed on 42% of the tanks.

3.) Electrical Components Assessment-On December 2nd, KBR also started an assessment of electrical components at all DFACs, billeting, and office areas. This assessment is scheduled to be completed by December 31st.

1. The above referenced DFAC fire prompted the request for a safety survey from COL Azemar (see attached msg).
2. The attached safety report from Paul Dickinson states the "Primary safety threat, theater wide, is fire due to the inferior 220 electrical fixtures found throughout Iraq. Improper installation, substandard equipment purchases (such as light fixtures), and heavy usage appear to be the three primary causes of these fires."
3. We have requested from the CSC the amount of BCOT safety training provided to QARs.
4. We will continue an archive search for data relevant to this situation

Christian D. Sluder
Acting Director, Contract Operations
DCMA International
Office: [REDACTED] //DSN [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
SIPR: [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----
From: Kaczmariski, David LTC [mailto:[REDACTED]@mncs.army.mil]
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 3:28 PM
To: kirk.vollmecke [REDACTED]
Cc: Holland, George, LTC, USA; Milner, Michael LTC
Subject: FW: News Article
Importance: High

What report?

DAVID M. KACZMARSKI
LTC, USA
DCMA Iraq/Afghanistan
Deputy Commander

COM: [REDACTED]
DSN: [REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----
From: Graff, David J. CAPT USN [mailto:[REDACTED]@dcma.mil]
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 10:18 PM
To: Vollmecke, Kirk COL; Kaczmariski, David LTC; Holland, George LTC
Cc: Blank, Scott; sluder, chris
Subject: Fw: News Article
Importance: High

Kirk,

I need you to take a hard look at this and comment on fact and timeline.

More accusations flying around about Electrocutions, timeline, warnings, DCMA, KBR and lack of on warnings.

I need immediate feedback on fact about news article at bottom of email.

Did we receive warning about defficient matl use? Need my basic what where when how why etc.

R/ Dave

Sent using BlackBerry

From: retson, nicholas
To: Brand, Jeffrey A., Col., USAF (DCMA)
Cc: Graff, David J. CAPT USN; russell, jim; Philo, Sharron
Sent: Mon May 05 14:47:49 2008
Subject: RE: News Article

Thx Jeff -- also just got copy of the same note and report from on of my attorneys.

I do think that one of the first steps is to see if CAPT Graff's folks have already identified the report as one of the documents in their collection of documents on this matter.

We also should check this against the timeline for the over all recent shower death incident -- maybe our folks initiated this as part of our process improvement.

Next, we should ensure that this report is made available to the DoD IG team looking into the shower death incident.

Chip

From: Brand, Jeffrey A., Col., USAF (DCMA)
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 2:38 PM
To: retson, nicholas
Cc: Graff, David J. CAPT USN; russell, jim
Subject: FW: News Article
Importance: High

Chip

Did not see your name on this. Not sure what our next steps may be.

JEFFREY A. BRAND, Col, USAF
DCMA Chief of Staff
██████████

From: Davies, Rebecca L.
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 1:38 PM
To: Graff, David J. CAPT USN; Brand, Jeffrey A., Col., USAF (DCMA)
Cc: Rayford, John; Blank, Scott; Hansen, Jacob, COL; Williams, Charlie; russell, jim; O'Kane, James B. (DCMAW-CC); nereng, norris
Subject: FW: News Article
Importance: High

Dave and Jeff,

Please review Jim O'Kane's email, article and report contained below...I think further discussion is warranted.

R,
Becky

From: O'Kane, James B. (DCMAW-CC)
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 12:49 PM
To: Davies, Rebecca L.
Cc: nereng, norris
Subject: News Article
Importance: High

Ms. Davies,

I need to bring something to your attention with regard to electrical issues in Iraq. One of my Team Chiefs forwarded this newspaper article to me this morning. The Contract Safety Division was asked to support efforts in Iraq late October 2006. Mr. Paul Dickinson was there from late October through mid January 2007. He flew from camp to camp and identified electrical safety issues at that time. He reported that they were using substandard electrical equipment (purchased from other countries where UL or similar ratings are not used) and that people were overloading the electrical systems as well causing fires.

While in Iraq Paul spoke with the Army, KBR, and DCMA about this issue and need for corrective action. I worked with Paul on the attached report and it was sent to the Commander of Iraq Operations and International Contract Safety. I am concerned that electrical safety issues were identified; lack of action with regard to any corrective action, or increased surveillance, results in direct liability issues for our Agency as well as individuals who were briefed regarding this finding, to include the Army and KBR.

Jim

<< OLE Object: Picture (Metafile) >>
Four years after an urgent bulletin issued by the U.S. Army -- with the headline 'The Unexpected Killer' -- at least two more soldiers have been electrocuted, according to Pentagon and Congressional investigators.

The Defense Contract Management Agency tasked with supervising maintenance work by contractors at American bases in Iraq attempted to defend itself in a written statement as did KBR, which until just last year was known as Kellogg, Brown and Root and was a subsidiary of Halliburton.

From Sunday's NYT:
"The Defense Contract Management Agency, which is responsible for supervising maintenance work by contractors at American bases in Iraq, defended its performance. In a written statement, the agency said it had no information that staff members "were aware" of the Army alert or "failed to take appropriate action in response to unsafe conditions brought to our attention."

Keith Ernst, who stepped down Wednesday as the agency's director, said, though, that the agency was "stretched too thin" in Iraq and that the small number of contract officers did not have expertise in dealing with so-called life support contracts, like that awarded to KBR to provide

food, shelter and building maintenance. "We don't have the technical capability for overseeing life support systems," he said.

For its part, KBR, which until last year was known as Kellogg, Brown and Root and was a subsidiary of Halliburton, denied that any lapses by the company had led to the electrocutions of American soldiers. "KBR's commitment to employee safety and the safety of those the company serves is unwavering," said a spokeswoman, Heather Browne. "KBR has found no evidence of a link between the work it has been tasked to perform and the reported electrocutions."

Ms. Browne declined to respond to the specific accounts of former KBR electricians.

Those electricians have a ready response to anyone who suggests that poor electrical work might be considered an unavoidable cost of war. "The excuse KBR always used was, 'This is a war zone - what do you expect?'" recalled Jeffrey Bliss, an Ohio electrician who worked for the company in Afghanistan in 2005 and 2006. "But if you are going to do the work, you have got to do it safe."

Since the United States invaded Iraq in 2003, tens of thousands of American troops have been housed in pre-existing Iraqi government buildings, some of them dangerously dilapidated. As part of its \$30 billion contract with the Pentagon in Iraq, KBR was required to repair and upgrade many of the buildings, including their electrical systems. The company handles maintenance for 4,000 structures and 35,000 containerized housing units in the war zone, the Pentagon said.

Lawmakers and government investigators say it is now clear that the Bush administration outsourced so much work to KBR and other contractors in Iraq that the agencies charged with oversight have been overwhelmed. The Defense Contracting Management Agency has more than 9,000 employees, but it has only 60 contract officers in Iraq and 30 in Afghanistan to supervise nearly 18,000 KBR employees in Iraq and 4,400 in Afghanistan handling base maintenance.

"All the contract officers can do is check the paperwork," said one agency official, who asked not to be identified. While about 600 military officers supplement the contract officers, Mr. Ernst said, the soldiers are not adequately trained for the task.

The Army has provided little detailed information about the electrocutions, other than to say late Friday that 10 soldiers had been electrocuted in Iraq. A House panel has also reported that two marines died similarly."

James O'Kane
Director, Contract Safety Division
Defense Contract Management Agency
Work: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]

<< File: PaulReportcoverletterfinal (6).doc >>