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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FORMER TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT EMPLOYEE AND FOREIGN DEFENSE CONTRACTOR INDICTED

Martin C. Carlson, Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, announced that a former Tobyhanna Army Depot employee has been charged with accepting more than \$80,000 in illegal payments from a foreign defense contractor.

RICHARD C. FEOLA, age 60, formerly of Dunmore, Pennsylvania, has been charged in 27-count Indictment returned by a Middle District of Pennsylvania grand jury with 13 counts of Unlawful Gratuities, 18 U.S.C. § 201(c)(1), 13 counts of Laundering Monetary Instruments, 18 U.S.C. § 1956, and 1 count of Criminal Forfeiture, 18 U.S.C. § 982. Each Unlawful Gratuity offense is punishable by up to two years' imprisonment and \$250,000 fine. Each Laundering Monetary Instruments offense is punishable by up to 20 years' imprisonment and \$250,000 fine.

FEOLA was a civilian employee of the U.S. Army at the Tobyhanna Army Depot in Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania. FEOLA held the position of "Information Technology Specialist" and his official duties included the preparation of computer equipment bid specifications for the Army. According to the Indictment, on at least 8 occasions FEOLA prepared bid specification documents seeking the purchase of computer equipment from Thruput LTD, a computer equipment supply company located in Bristol, England. As a result, the Army awarded eight contracts totaling \$308,595 to Thruput LTD between July 2000 and August 2005.

FEOLA's co-defendant in the case is MICHAEL CLERY, a British citizen and the owner-operator of Thruput LTD. According to the Indictment, after the first two Army contracts were awarded to

Thruput, CLERY wired \$5,957 from a bank account in England to an account FEOLA controlled in the United States. Thereafter, over the course of the next six years CLERY wired additional funds totaling \$83,332 to FEOLA. CLERY is also charged in the Indictment with 13 counts of Paying Unlawful Gratuities, 18 U.S.C. §201(c)(1), and 13 counts of Laundering Monetary Instruments, 18 U.S.C. § 1956. CLERY, however, has not yet been arrested on the charges.

FEOLA was arraigned today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas M. Blewett in Scranton. FEOLA entered a not guilty plea and was released on his own recognizance. FEOLA retired from the Army in the Spring of 2007 and currently resides in Nebraska. Trial has been scheduled for January 22, 2008 before U.S. District Court Judge James M. Munley in Scranton.

Carlson noted the case was investigated by the Army's Criminal Investigation Command and by the Department of Defense's Inspector General's Office. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kim Douglas Daniel.

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