



INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
400 ARMY NAVY DRIVE
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202-2885

September 11, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS)

SUBJECT: Review of GAO Final Report and Preparation of DoD Official Comments

Reference: GAO Final Report, GAO-04-605, "REBUILDING IRAQ: Fiscal
Year 2003 Contract Award Procedures and Management
Challenges," dated June 1, 2004 (GAO Code 120248)

On June 16, 2004, we received the referenced GAO final report. The report can be found on the GAO web site at www.GAO.GOV (Report Number GAO-04-605, dated June 1, 2004). Since the report contains recommendations to the Department, 31 U.S.C. 720 requires a response be provided to the Congress within 60 days of the date of the report.

To ensure the Department complies with 31 U.S.C. 720 and GAO's request, the unsigned DoD proposed response is due in our office by **July 16, 2004**. Collateral action offices (CAOs) should review the GAO final report and provide input to your office by **July 9, 2004**.

The GAO provided a draft report for DoD comment in April. The GAO discusses the DoD comments to the draft report on pages 6, 30, 31, and 32 of the final report. The entire DoD response is reprinted at Appendix III with a rebuttal to the DoD comments on pages 46 and 47 of Appendix III. Even though the final report remains essentially unchanged from the draft, GAO's discussion and rebuttal of the DoD's comments should be reviewed to determine if further DoD comments are warranted. If not, an acknowledgement that DoD comments appear substantially correct and a general concurrence maybe all that is necessary.

To meet the legal requirement, please prepare a letter to GAO addressed to Mr. William T. Woods, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20548. The letter should begin by stating, "This is the Department of Defense (DoD) response to the GAO report, 'REBUILDING IRAQ: Fiscal Year 2003 Contract Award Procedures and Management Challenges,' dated June 1, 2004 (GAO Code 120248/GAO-04-605)." The letter should then acknowledge receipt of the final report and note that DoD's official written comments are included in the report; reiterate that the DoD overall position on the report has not changed, assuming this is the case; and update the status of any agreed-to action.

The letter may also include any additional general comments that the DoD wishes to provide.

Once we receive your proposed response, we will review and coordinate it with selected OSD components before authorizing its release to GAO and Congress. If your staff will not be able to provide a proposed response by the due date, please advise us as soon as a delay becomes evident.

We are providing copies of this tasking to the collateral action offices and to your primary action officer, **Mr. Craig Curtis, 703-614-6719**. If you have questions, please contact my action officer for this case, **Mr. Samuel J. Scumaci, 703-604-9630**, e-mail, sscumaci@dodig.osd.mil. If he is not available, please contact Ms. Kimberly A. Gray, 703-604-9621, e-mail, kgray@dodig.osd.mil. Our fax number is 703-604-9608.

Kimberly A. Gray
for **Carlos J. Chapa**
Technical Director
Audit Followup & GAO Affairs

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	USD (AT&L)	Mr. Craig Curtis, 703-614-6719
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