



# Army Procurement Fraud Branch

## Procurement Fraud Advisor's Update



Photo by: SRA STEPHEN OTERO, USAF

FT POLK, LA - An improvised explosive device detonates near an Army convoy during the Air Warrior II exercise at Ft Polk, LA. During this live-fire portion of the exercise, an Army convoy is attacked by a simulated enemy and must respond with ground and air assets. USAF A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft from the 354th Fighter Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB AZ helped to suppress the simulated attack with the direction of Air Force Joint Tactical Air Controllers embedded with the 10th Mountain Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team "Spartans", Ft Drum, NY.

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## ARMY PROCUREMENT FRAUD ADVISOR'S UPDATE

ARMY PROCUREMENT FRAUD BRANCH  
CONTRACT & FISCAL LAW DIVISION

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF, PROCUREMENT FRAUD BRANCH

In October 2006, the Procurement Fraud Branch announced an initiative to improve the effectiveness of Procurement Fraud Advisors (PFAs). While participation by PFAs in the Army's Procurement Fraud Program has always been essential to the success of the program, it is especially critical now, given the large increase in acquisitions and dollars, the increases in numbers of investigations, and the increases in qui tam litigation. As a first step, PFB conducted a conference call with all Procurement Fraud and Irregularities Coordinators (PFICs) at Army major commands in February 2007 to discuss the goals of the planned initiative. PFB asked for semi-annual status reports, beginning in July 2007, to improve the information flow between commands and PFB.

**Semi-Annual Case Reports:** The majority of legal offices throughout the Army responded promptly to the request for the semi-annual reports. Further, several found the "data call" helpful in taking inventory of active cases. PFB found the reports helpful as well in maintaining current records. Our attorneys are presently analyzing the reports to see where the gaps are in our data. The requirement for the semi-annual reports will continue.

**Flash Reports and Remedies Plans:** Despite our reminders in recent updates for PFAs to submit "flash" reports and "remedies plans," only a few are submitted on new cases by PFAs.

As a next step to improve this reporting process, PFB attorneys will now electronically notify PFAs and PFICs of each new case and request the submission of a remedies plan to PFB *at the time the case is presented to the DOJ by the investigator and PFA*. For PFAs to submit remedies plans, they must be familiar with the details of the case, and work closely with investigative agents who are making the presentation to the AUSA in individual cases. It is important that PFAs identify local investigative agents early and work closely with them to develop the remedies plan. PFB plans to meet with CID leadership in late August. As part of that meeting, PFB will emphasize to CID the availability of PFAs as a resource and the need to keep them informed and involved.

**Assignment of Qui Tam Cases:** As part of the initiative to more effectively utilize PFAs, PFB will begin assigning all qui tam cases, and selected other cases suitable for handling by local commands, to local commands as of 1 September 2007. Upon receipt of the notice of assignment, PFAs are responsible for contacting the DOJ attorney assigned to the case, and investigative agents, and providing assistance as needed. The PFA will keep the PFB assigned attorney apprised of the status of the case. Settlement authority will remain at PFB.

**Training:** As part of the semi-annual reporting requirement, PFICs

### MISSION

*The Procurement Fraud Branch (PFB) is part of the Contract and Fiscal Law Division, U.S. Army Legal Services Agency. PFB is the Army's single centralized organization with the mission to coordinate and monitor the status of all criminal, civil, contractual, and administrative remedies in cases of fraud or corruption relating to Army procurements. The Procurement Fraud Advisor's Newsletter has been published since September of 1989 on a quarterly basis to advise Army Procurement Fraud Advisors (PFAs) on the latest developments in procurement fraud and remedies coordination. The Update is also distributed electronically to other Government fraud counsel at their request.*

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## MESSAGE FROM CHIEF, PROCUREMENT FRAUD BRANCH

were asked to provide information regarding training provided to PFAs. The information we received though incomplete, indicated that the Judge Advocate General's School Procurement Fraud Course, and related Contract and Fiscal Law Courses, including the Contract Law Symposium, are the primary sources of training. Due to funding limitations and the fact that the Procurement Fraud Course is given only every two years, PFAs are not always able to attend those courses. Therefore, a deskbook will be provided to all PFAs (and PFICs) by 31 August 2007. The desk book will include training materials on qui tam litigation and a "fraud awareness" slide presentation for use by PFAs at their commands. All PFAs will be required to acknowledge and certify receipt and review of the desk book by 28 September 2007. As part of the certification, PFAs will be asked to report on PF training received and plans to attend the next PF Course in May 2008 (28-30). PFB will maintain records of PFA

certifications. All PFAs who have not attended the Army PF Course should attend the May 2008 course. Those who have attended the course and would benefit by additional training should attend the DOD Procurement Fraud Working Group Conference in April 2008 (1-4) (Daytona, Florida) which is sponsored by the Air Force this year. Registration for the Army PF Course is through the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) coordinators at local commands. For questions about either course, contact Greg Campbell at [Gregory.Campbell@hqda.army.mil](mailto:Gregory.Campbell@hqda.army.mil)

**KFLD: Hails and Farewells:**  
**COL Timothy J. Pendolino**, currently the Staff Judge Advocate at OSJA, HQ 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light) & U.S. Army, Hawaii, has been appointed as the new Chief Trial Attorney (CTA). He will assume his new position in January 2008. Until that time, Mr. Craig

Clarke, Deputy CTA, will serve as Acting CTA. In July, KFLD said farewell to **COL Samuel J. Rob**, CTA, who was reassigned to the OSJA, Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, where he is the Staff Judge Advocate. COL Rob successfully led the USALSA initiative to create an expanded Contract and Fiscal Law Division (to include a new Contract Actions Branch and the former Contract Law Division). He was instrumental in facilitating the appointment of PFAs in the theatre and the deployment of KFLD officers with contract and fiscal law experience to the theatre. PFB said farewell to PFB attorney **Norman Zamboni** who left for a promotion in June 2007 with the U.S. Postal Service where he will head up a newly established fraud fighting program. Norm made an outstanding contribution to the Army procurement fraud program during the last two and one half years. He was responsible for the 2006 PF Course.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OFFICIAL (Cont'd on page 4)

**New FAR Regulations Likely on Contractor Standards of Conduct:** While DOD has supported contractor standards of conduct programs and display of hotline posters for years, neither DOD nor the Federal Government have, to date, required contractors to institute standards of conduct programs as a prerequisite to doing business with the Government. DOD's current policy is for discretionary, not mandatory programs. DFARS 203.7000 provides that DOD contractors "should" have standards of conduct programs and internal control systems. DFARS 203.7002 provides that the DOD Display of Hotline Poster clause shall be in solicitations over \$5 million unless the work will take place in a foreign country. DFARS 252.203-

7002 provides that the contractor need not display the DOD poster if it has an internal hotline or other reporting mechanism.

Government acquisition regulations may change in the near future to require mandatory standards of conduct programs for contractors doing business with the Government with some exceptions. The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council are in the process of issuing a final rule amending the Federal Acquisition Rule to require standards of conduct programs as a prerequisite to doing business with the Government with some exceptions. A proposed rule was published in the Fed-

eral Register on 16 February 2007 (72 FR 7588). Comments were received through May 2007. If implemented, this rule would, in my view, enhance integrity in the acquisition process by strengthening the requirements for corporate compliance and promote consistency in agency contractor standards of conduct requirements.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SDO

**Networking and Training Opportunities this Year:** The DOD Procurement Fraud Working Group Conference will be held in April 2008 (1-4) at the Daytona Hilton. It will be sponsored by the Air Force this year. I hope to see many Army PFAs and PFICs attend. The conference provides an opportunity for some advanced training and networking with DOJ attorneys and investigators, as well as a breakout session for Army fraud-fighters. Also important to add to

your calendars is the Army PF Course at The Judge Advocate General's Course in May 2008 (28-30) in Charlottesville, VA. More details about these courses will be provided in the next issue of the Update.

**Importance of PFAs to the Army Fraud Program:** Finally, I want to highlight the importance of the initiative discussed by

the Chief, PFB to more effectively using PFAs in handling PF cases. This initiative is critical to maintaining the Army's highly effective program. I look forward to working with PFAs directly on suspension and debarment cases presented to me for action. As we have said before, an effective procurement fraud program directly supports the Army's ability to execute its mission. Thank you for your efforts.  
Robert M. Kittel

## FRAUD COUNSEL'S CORNER

### Teamwork Pays Off



By: Janet D. Kaminski, SDDC / PFIC

DoD issued a memorandum stopping the electronic payment of transportation

services that are not linked to a particular shipment. During a recent investigation by the Government, pertaining to the payment of transportation services, a large delta was found between what our systems stated should have been paid for shipments and the total amount paid to carriers by POWER-TRACK. Because these payments were not linked to a particular shipment, SDDC's auditors could not perform post audits which prevented SDDC from calculating its damages. Pam Varner and her DoD-IG Mining Group took this issue on and looked at it throughout DoD and found a significant problem in the billions. As a result, DOD issued this memorandum and stopped a payment practice which was inviting fraud and corruption.

### DII

By: Dan Pantzer, AMC / PFIC

On June 13-15, 2007, the Defense Industry Initiative on Business Ethics and Conduct (DII) held its 2007 Best Practices Forum in Washington, DC. DII, originally formed in 1986 by 32 major defense industry contractors, is a consortium of U.S. defense contractors which subscribes to a set of principles for achieving high standards of business ethics and conduct. Invited attendees at the Forum also included various personnel from



within the Department of Defense, including those from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Defense Logistics Agency, Office of Government Ethics, Defense

Contract Management Agency, Government Accountability Office, and Department of Justice. Robert I. Cusick, Director U.S. Office of Government Ethics, delivered the keynote address, focused on the topic, "Who are Government Workers and How Can Management Improve Worker Ethical Sensitivity?" Another featured speaker was James B. Comey, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Lockheed Martin, who delivered an address focused upon the vital necessity of

growing and fostering a corporate culture of integrity. Forum participants listened to a detailed update regarding the ongoing efforts of the National Procurement Fraud Task Force, delivered by Barry Sabin, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice. Additionally, DII signatories and guest speakers made several public presentations on behalf of the DII, and several break-out sessions were conducted, primarily centered around the themes of measuring, growing, and leading ethical business cultures within the context of today's defense contracting industry. More information on DII can be found on its website, at <http://www.dii.org/>.

WARS MAY BE FOUGHT WITH WEAPONS, BUT THEY ARE WON BY MEN. IT IS THE SPIRIT OF MEN WHO FOLLOW AND OF THE MAN WHO LEADS THAT GAINS VICTORY.

GEORGE S. PATTON

## SUSPENSIONS AND DEBARMENTS (CONT'D ON PAGE 6)

### Suspensions.

(1) Wire Fraud/Bribery (MAMC, WA). On 23 May 2007, the Army SDO suspended Luis Cruz (Mr. Cruz) and Bobbins Custom Upholstery (BCU) from contracting with the Government. On 22 February 2007, Mr. Cruz was indicted in the United States District Court, Western District of Washington, and charged with wire fraud and bribery. Mr. Cruz, a tools and parts attendant at U.S. Army Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC), fabricated invoices for service or repair. The bills were then submitted to BCU, which charged a service fee for taking the money and paid Mr. Cruz 50% of the remaining funds. (CPT Nelson)

(2) False Statement (AMCOM). On 19 April 2007, the Army SDO suspended Mr. Alexander Nooredin Latifi and his company, Axion Corporation (Axion) from contracting with the Government. On 28 March 2007, Axion and Mr. Latifi were indicted in the United States District Court, Northern District of Alabama, on charges of illegally exporting sensitive military technology overseas, fraud involving aircraft parts, and submitting false documents to the Government. According to the indictment, Axion and Mr. Latifi knowingly and willfully exported defense articles, specifically technical drawings of the bifilar weight assembly for the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, to overseas manufacturers without first obtaining a required license and authorization from the State Department. (Mr. Kim)

(3) Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Iraq). On 17 May 2007, the Army SDO suspended Aaron Bridges Langston (Mr. Langston) from contracting with the Government. On 27 February 2007, an indictment was filed against Mr. Langston in the United States District Court, District of Arizona, for committing assault with a deadly weapon resulting in serious bodily injury. Mr. Langston, a KBR employee working

with the LOGCAP III contract at Camp Ripper, Al Asad, Iraq, became enraged and stabbed a co-worker in the throat. (Ms. McCaffrey)

(4) Conspiracy to Commit Fraud (MEDCOM). On 6 June 2007, the Army SDO suspended Ignacio Rules Torres, Francisco Quinata Cruz, Sr., William John Strout, Sr., William John Strout, Jr., Johnnie Flores, Andrew Delancey Waring II, Enterprise Consulting, PRO-ECA, Inc., Torres Services Incorporated, TSI Telecommunications Services, Sphinx Consultant and Associates (d/b/a SC&A, Inc.), and Government Resource Group from contracting with the Government. The parties were indicted on 17 May 2007, in the United States District Court, Western District of Texas, and charged with: conspiracy; bribery; receipt of kickbacks in public contracts; wire fraud; violating the Procurement Integrity Act; income tax fraud; and engaging in monetary transactions with criminally-derived property, based on allegations that they conspired to fraudulently award multiple Government contracts for computer cable upgrades at various MEDCOM facilities. (Mr. Persico)

(5) Wire Fraud of Honest Services (Kuwait). On 26 June 2007, the Army SDO suspended Jesse D. Lane, Jr., (Mr. Lane) on the basis of the indictment filed against him on 6 March 2007, in the United States District Court, Central District of California, charging him with conspiracy to commit offense(s) against the United States, wire fraud of honest services, obstruction of justice, and aiding and abetting. Mr. Lane was employed at the United States Payment and Fiscal Office (USPFO), a National Guard Center located in San Luis Obispo, California. As a member of the California Army Na-

tional Guard, a component of the Department of Defense, Mr. Lane was assigned to the 223<sup>rd</sup> Finance Detachment, a pay processing unit based in Compton, California. From March 2004 until February 2005, Mr. Lane and other members of his Guard unit were activated, and deployed to the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Although stationed in Kuwait, Mr. Lane continued to have access to the computer systems that allowed him to input pay information for members of the California National Guard. When this information was inputted, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Indianapolis, Indiana, a DoD component, automatically transferred funds into members' personal bank accounts by way of interstate wire transmissions. Beginning on or about February 2005, and continuing until April 2006, Mr. Lane and his co-conspirators, Jennifer Anjakos (Ms. Anjakos), Carlos Chavez (Mr. Chavez), Derryl Hollier (Mr. Hollier), and Luis Lopez (Mr. Lopez), devised a scheme to defraud the Government of money and property in the amount of approximately \$320,000, as well as the "honest" services of Mr. Lane himself. This was accomplished by having Mr. Lane falsify pay and entitlement funding requests for the benefit of the co-conspirators, in return for their paying approximately 50% of the money they received to Mr. Lane in the form of kickbacks.

(Ms. McCaffrey)

(6) Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud (Iraq). On 2 July 2007, the Army SDO suspended Jennifer Anjakos (Ms. Anjakos); Carlos L. Chavez (Mr. Chavez); Derryl Hollier (Mr. Hollier); and Luis A. Lopez (Mr. Lopez) [hereinafter

## SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS (CONT'D ON PAGE 7)

collectively referred to as "defendants"] on the basis of the criminal information filed against them on 25 September 2006, in the United States District Court, Central District of California, charging each with conspiring to commit wire fraud. The defendants were members of the California Army National Guard, a component of the Department of Defense, assigned to the 223<sup>rd</sup> Finance Detachment (the 223rd), a pay processing unit based in Compton, California. From March 2004 until February 2005, they were activated and deployed to the Republic of Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While activated to Federal status, the guardsmen's salaries, which included basic allowance for housing (BAH), were paid by the Department of Defense (DoD). The defendants, while on deployment, conspired with "Co-conspirator One," a fellow National Guardsman, Jesse D. Lane (Mr. Lane), and a full time employee of the United States Payment and Fiscal Office (USPFO), a Guard center located in San Luis Obispo, California. Although on deployment, Mr. Lane continued to have access to the computer systems that allowed him to input pay information for members of the California National Guard. When he inputted this information, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Indianapolis, Indiana, a DoD component, automatically transferred funds into members' personal bank accounts by way of interstate wire transmissions. Beginning on or about February 2005, and continuing until April 2006, Mr. Lane and his co-conspirators, the defendants devised a scheme to defraud the Government of money by having Mr. Lane falsify pay and entitlement funding requests for their benefit. In exchange for this, the defendants paid approximately 50% of the money they received to Mr. Lane in the form of kickbacks. (Ms.

McCaffrey)

(8) Bribery, Conspiracy & False Statements (USFK). On 27 June 2007, the USFK SDO suspended Chang Sik Yi (GS employee). A Seoul Central District Prosecutor's Office, Foreign Affairs Division, Report of Investigation, dated 11 April 2006 established that Mr. Chang Sik Yi, a CCK contracting officer, illegally passed bid information to Mr. Hyun Chul Kim who passed the information to Mr. Bok Su Ui and Mr. Jae Han Pak of Daham Ecat Company, who used the information to prepare their bid on the USFK security contract. Mr. Ki Sung Yang, an accountant, assisted the conspiracy by falsifying company records, and Mr. Chnag Sik Yi further assisted by recommending Daham to LTC Reston Butkler, Source Selection Authority fro USFK, and Mr. Carl Stubbett, the Chief of Services Branch, USACCK. Over the course of 2003, Mr. Bok Su Ui and Mr. Jae Han Park paid Mr. Hyun Chul Kim W700 million. The money passed through the bank account of Ms. Young Suk Choi, Mr. Kim's wife, to Mr. Ho Chin Bae, Mr. Chang Sik's brother-in-law. Nine W10 million checks withdrawn from Ms. Young Suk Choi's account were later negotiated by Mr. Chang Sik Yi, and another four by his wife, Ms. Yoon Suk Yi. (Major Mitchell)

### Proposed Debarments.

(1) False Certificate/False Statement (TACOM-Michigan). On 10 May 2007, the Army SDO proposed David W. Lukasik (Mr. Lukasik) and Environmental Technologies Group, Inc. (ETG), for debarment from contracting with the Government. On 20 October 2006, Mr. Lukasik pled guilty in the United States District

Court, Western District of Michigan, to causing the delivery of a false certificate. On 15 December 2006, he was sentenced to pay an assessment of \$25, and to make criminal restitution in the amount of \$50,000 to the Department of Army. On 19 December 2006, he signed a settlement agreement and release in which he agreed to pay the Government \$50,000 in full settlement of any civil claims arising out of the criminal misconduct with which he was charged. Any payments Mr. Lukasik makes under the terms of this settlement will be fully accredited to him in satisfaction of his obligation to pay criminal restitution. On 20 October 2006, ETG, through its principal, Mr. Lukasik, pled guilty in the United States District Court, Western District of Michigan, to a criminal information charging it with making a false statement, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and was ordered to pay an assessment of \$400 and a suspended fine of \$100. (Ms. McCaffrey)

(2) Gratuities (USACOE/Kuwait). On 1 May 2007, the Army SDO proposed Gheevarghese Pappen (Mr. Pappen) for debarment. On 31 January 2007, Mr. Pappen pled guilty, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, to accepting illegal gratuities while detailed, from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he was employed as a civilian employee, to ASG-Kuwait, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. From the early part of 2005 through 17 March 2006, Mr. Pappen received approximately \$47,900 in illegal gratuities from a contractor in exchange for receipt of real estate rental contracts with the Army. Mr. Pappen was arrested on 17 March 2006, and suspended from contracting with the Government on 30 March 2006. Mr. Pappen was

**SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS** (CONT'D ON PAGE 8)

sentenced on 31 January 2007, to a 24-month term of imprisonment, to serve 1 year of supervised release thereafter, to pay \$28,900 in restitution to the Kuwaiti national victim, and a special assessment of \$100. (Mr. Persico)

(3) Bribery (IZ, Iraq). On 17 April 2007, the Army SDO proposed Mr. Faheem Mousa Salam (Mr. Salam) for debarment. Mr. Salam was a translator employed by Titan Corporation, a Government contractor, in the International Zone (IZ), Baghdad, Iraq. On or about 12 December 2005, Mr. Salam approached a senior official of the Iraqi Police and offered him a \$60,000 payment in exchange for the official's assistance in securing a contract from CPATT for the purchase of 1,000 protective vests and a map printer. Mr. Salam later offered approximately \$35,000 to an undercover investigator to facilitate the award of this contract. On 23 March 2006, Mr. Salam was charged with violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977. On 7 February 2007, he pled guilty and was sentenced in the United States District Court, District of Columbia, to serve 36 months of imprisonment, 24 months of supervised release thereafter, 250 hours of community service, and to pay a special assessment of \$100. (Mr. Persico)

(4) Bribery (Al-Hillah, Iraq). On 2 July 2007, the Army SDO proposed Mr. Robert J. Stein, Jr. (Mr. Stein), for debarment from contracting with the Government. On 1 March 2007, in the United States District Court, District of Columbia, Mr. Stein pled guilty to conspiracy, bribery, money laundering, possession of a firearm, possession of a machine gun, aiding and abetting and causing the possession of a machine gun. Mr. Stein was sentenced to imprisonment for 46 months, to serve two years of supervised release thereafter, to pay

\$3,600.00 in restitution (to be paid jointly and severely with his co-conspirators) and to pay a special assessment of \$300. Between October 2003 and June 2004, Mr. Stein was employed as the Comptroller and Funding Officer for the CPA – South Central Region, in Al-Hillah, Iraq. On 14 November 2005, Mr. Stein was arrested in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in connection with a bribery and fraud scheme involving multiple contracts awarded to co-conspirators by CPA-SC between January and June 2004. Mr. Stein received payment for fraudulently awarding contracts and authorizing cash payments despite defective or non-performance of contract terms. Mr. Stein has also admitted to, or been implicated in, the theft of bulk cash totaling \$120,000 from CPA-SC, theft of approximately \$70,000 worth of weapons from an armory at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, as well as aiding multiple co-conspirators in other fraudulent acts and theft. On 2 December 2005, Mr. Stein was suspended from contracting with the Government. (Mr. Persico)

(5) False Claims (USFK). On 25 April 2007, the USFK SDO proposed Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd, Buil Corporation, CNI Tech, Hur Joon, an employee, Yull Air Conditioning Shop and Yu, Chi Hui, another employee, for debarment. In November 2005, the Area 1 Internal Review Office (IR) conducted a Special Review of the blanket purchase agreement for air handling unit heating coils. During the review, IR inspected 51 heating coils which had purportedly been replaced in fiscal years 2004 and 2005 and discovered that 41 had not been replaced during that time frame. The Government was billed and paid Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd/ Buil Corporation, CNI TEC for the replacement of all 51

heating coils. The contract was originally awarded to Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd/Buil Corporation, which has changed its name to CNI TEC. CNI TEC subcontracted the work to Mr. Chui Uo Yu of Yu-Il Air Conditioning Shop. There is no evidence to cover up the failure to replace the heating coils that Mr. You had installed; new insulation on some external water pipes had served to cover the company's failure to replace the heating coils. The loss to the Government is estimated to be \$94,537.00. (Major Mitchell)

(6) Wire Fraud and Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering (Iraq). On 26 June 07, the Army SDO proposed Mr. Philip H. Bloom (Mr. Bloom) and his company, Global Business Group (GBG) S.R.L., for debarment from contracting with the Government. GBG is a construction and management consulting services company, headquartered in Bucharest, Romania, which entered into several contracts with the CPA and other Governmental entities in Europe and the Middle East between 2003 and 2005. On 13 November 2005, Mr. Bloom was arrested in Newark, New Jersey, on charges of conspiring to commit money laundering and wire fraud in connection with a bribery and fraud scheme involving several contracts awarded to GBG by the CPA, between January and June 2004, for work in the Al Hillah region of Iraq. As part of this scheme, Mr. Bloom, directly or through GBG, fraudulently received payment for CPA-SC contracts, and distributed funds to contracting officers who conspired with him to award contracts to companies under his control. On 1 March 2007, in the USDC for the District of Columbia, Mr. Bloom pled guilty to one count each of Conspiracy, Bribery, and Money Laun-

**SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS** (CONT'D ON PAGE 9)

dering. Mr. Bloom was subsequently sentenced to 46 months imprisonment, 2 years supervised release, \$3.6 million in criminal restitution, jointly and severely, with his co-conspirators. Both Mr. Bloom and GBG were previously suspended from contacting with the Government on 28 November 2006. (Mr. Persico)

**Debarments.**

(1) Wire Fraud (CECOM). On 18 June 2007 the Army Suspension and Debarment Official debarred Archibald Curran, Jr., a former management specialist at the U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command ("CECOM"), Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey. Between 2004 and 2005, Mr. Curran forged invoices, which purported to falsely represent legitimate travel expenses, and forged signatures to create the appearance that his supervisors had approved these expenditures. On 11 April 2006, Mr. Curran was convicted of one count of wire fraud and sentenced to 20 months imprisonment, 3 years probation, and payment of \$151,000.00 in restitution to CECOM. (Mr. Persico)

(2) Bribery (Baghdad, Iraq). On 28 June 2007, the Army Suspension and Debarment Official debarred Mr. Faheem Mousa Salam from contracting with the Government until 17 April 2013. In December 2005, Mr. Salam, then employed as a translator by Titan Corporation, a Government contractor in the International Zone, Baghdad, Iraq, offered a \$60,000.00 payment to a senior official of the Iraqi Police in exchange for the award of a contract to provide equipment to the Iraqi Police force (1,000 protective vests and a map printer). Mr. Salam later offered approximately \$35,000 to an undercover investigator to facilitate

the award of this contract. On 23 March 2006, Mr. Salam was arrested at Washington Dulles International Airport, Chantilly, Virginia, and charged with violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, 15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2(i). As a result of Mr. Salam's arrest, he was suspended from contracting with the Government on 13 April 2006. On 7 February 2007, Mr. Salam pled guilty to one count of violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. He was sentenced to 36 months imprisonment, 24 months of supervised release thereafter, 250 hours of community service, and payment of a \$100 special assessment. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandal).

(3) Gratuities (Corpus Christi Army Depot). On 17 April 2007, the Army SDO debarred Robert's Contracting (Robert's), a Government contractor doing business with the Army at the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD), Corpus Christi, Texas. The SDO also debarred Ms. Virginia Sue Bodine, owner and operator of Robert's, and Mr. Jack E. Griffin, a Government employee employed by CCAD, and working as a contracting officer's representative for contracts retained by Robert's. Robert's provided maintenance and repair services, and was awarded contracts worth in excess of \$450,000 in 2006. Ms. Bodine offered, and Mr. Griffin accepted, illegal gratuities. Robert's and Ms. Bodine were debarred until 24 January 2010. Mr. Griffin was debarred until 24 January 2012. (Mr. Kim)

(4) Bribery (CECOM). On 20 April 2007, the Army SDO debarred Mr. Michael J. Rzeplinski his company, R-ZED Engineering Services

(R-ZED), and Mses. Connie Lynn Davidson and her daughter, Kirsten Leah Davidson. Mr. Rzeplinski was a supervisory engineer for the Army. Ms. Connie Davidson worked for GSA, first as a supervisory IT specialist, and later as the lead customer relations manager with the Federal Technology Service (FTS). Mr. Rzeplinski arranged the award of a project to provide IT-related services to a Government contractor, and then asked the contractor to hire Ms. Kirsten Davidson to perform computer-related services under his direction. The contractor billed the Army approximately \$283,000. Mr. Rzeplinski then recommended the award of a GSA IT-related service task order to a contractor who was asked by Mr. Rzeplinski and Ms. Kirsten Davidson to perform computer-related services under his direction and was paid approximately \$555,710. In addition, Mr. Rzeplinski caused the second contractor to hire R-ZED as a subcontractor. Mr. Rzeplinski also admitted that for tax year 2004, he avoided paying federal income tax due. On 29 January 2007, in the United States District Court of New Jersey, Mr. Rzeplinski was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the United States with respect to false claims and tax evasion in 2004. He was sentenced to 46 months imprisonment, three years supervised release, ordered to pay a \$200 special assessment, and make payment of \$862,710.00 in criminal restitution. On 22 January 2007, Ms. Connie Davidson was found guilty of conspiracy to file false claims. She was sentenced to 12 months and one-day imprisonment, three years supervised release, ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100, and to make \$395,710.00 in criminal restitution. Ms. Kirsten Davidson was found

**SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS** (CONT'D ON PAGE 10)

guilty of conspiracy to defraud the United States with respect to false claims and was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment, three years supervised release, and ordered to pay a special assessment of \$100, and to make payment of \$290,647.35 in criminal restitution to the Army. Mr. Rzeplinski and R-ZED are debarred until 11 July 2015. Ms. Kirsten Davidson is debarred until 11 March 2011, and Ms. Connie Davidson is debarred until 12 September 2010. (Mr. Kim)

(6) Fraud and Embezzlement (Schofield Barracks, Hawaii). On 28 June 07, the Army SDO debarred Mr. John Phelps, Ms. Susan Phelps, and their companies, Ash Painting Inc., Global Builders Inc., Global Consultants & Coatings, and Professional Coatings Corp., from contracting with the Government for a period of 12 years, ending on 10 Aug 2016. Mr. Phelps operated Ash Painting, Inc., a general contracting business in Hawaii, also known as Global Builders Inc. In May 1998, Ash Painting/Global Builders was awarded an Army contract at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The company ran out of money before completing the project and its surety company, Amwest Surety, agreed to provide funding to complete the contract. Between April 2000 and March 2001, Mr. Phelps provided false and fraudulent information to Amwest Surety in order to inflate the amount of money Amwest Surety was required to pay Ash Painting/Global Builders. In addition, between October 1998 and March 2001, Mr. Phelps embezzled money from the company's retirement pension plan, and, in November 2005, he pled guilty to three counts of fraud and one count of embezzlement from an employee benefit plan. He was sentenced to 51 months imprisonment, 5 years of supervised release, and payment of approximately \$292,000 in criminal

restitution. On 20 May 2004, John Phelps, Susan Phelps, Ash Painting Inc., Global Builders Inc., and Global Consultants & Coatings were suspended and on 10 August 2007, were proposed for debarment. Mr. Phelps had previously been convicted in federal court of making false statements and conspiracy, which resulted in the debarment of Mr. Phelps, Ms. Phelps, Professional Coatings Corporation, and Ash Painting Inc. for a period of three years beginning in 1990. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandal)

(7) Bribery (Baghdad, Iraq). On 27 June 2007, the Army SDO debarred Mr. Abdulla Hady Qussay and his company, Qussay A. Hady Mechanical and Electric Works, from contracting with the Government. Qussay A. Hady Mechanical and Electric Works was a subcontractor for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Regional Division, Central District, sewer construction project in Baghdad, Iraq. Between 12 January 2006 and 19 February 2006, Mr. Alwan Faiq, an employee of Mr. Qussay's, approached a project manager and a contracting officer, on four separate occasions, with offers of payment in exchange for assistance on obtaining a contract held by another contractor and for information to assist in securing future U.S. Government contracts. Mr. Faiq, Mr. Qussay, and his company were debarred for a period of three years. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandel)

(9) Gratuities (Camp Arifjan, Kuwait). On 28 June 2007, the Army SDO debarred Mr. Gheevarghese Pappen from contracting with the Government until 30 March 2011. Mr. Pappen was a former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employee de-

tailed to Area Support Group Kuwait, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, between early 2005 and 17 March 2006. During that period, Mr. Pappen received approximately \$47,900 in illegal gratuities from a contractor in exchange for real estate rental contracts with the Army. Mr. Pappen was charged with bribing a public official and was suspended from contracting with the Government on 30 March 2006. On 31 January 2007, Mr. Pappen pled guilty in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia to bribery and accepting illegal gratuities, and was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment, 1 year of supervised release, payment of \$28,900 in criminal restitution, and a \$100 special assessment. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandal)

(10) False Claims (Camp Arifjan, Kuwait). On 18 May 2007, the Army SDO debarred Green Valley Company, a Kuwaiti transportation, wastewater removal, and construction supply contractor from contracting with the Government. The Area Support Group Kuwait contracting office provided evidence alleging that between 18 October 2005 and 28 February 2006, while performing a black and gray water removal contract at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Green Valley Company engaged in a scheme to submit false claims to Area Support Group, Kuwait, by loading and unloading waste water trucks in a manner that inflated the amount of black and gray water actually removed. A partner of Green Valley Company, Palm Springs General Trading and Contracting Establishment, was also proposed

## SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS (CONT'D ON PAGE 11)

for debarment as part of this action, however, based on mitigating actions taken to halt Green Valley Company's actions, including termination of their business partnership, it was determined that the company had acted in a responsible manner, resulting in the termination of the debarment action. Green Valley Company was debarred from contracting with the Government for a period of three years, retroactive to 1 December 2005, the date proposed for debarment. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandal)

(11) Knowingly Possessing Counterfeit Social Security Cards, Alien Registration Cards (Fort Campbell, Kentucky). On 14 June 2007, the Army Suspension and Debarment Official debarred Christine Chen Wee Ho, and her company, China Star Buffet, from contracting with the Government. Ms. Ho was sentenced on 13 April 2006 to 29 months imprisonment and 24 months supervised release as a result of providing counterfeit alien registration and social security cards to her employees. Ms. Ho also used this identification to facilitate the entry of her employees onto Fort Campbell, Kentucky, for the purpose of making deliveries to on-post residents. (Mr. Persico and Ms. Swandal)

(12) Wire Fraud and Conspiracy to Launder Money (Iraq). On 27 June 2007, the Army SDO debarred Stephen Lowell Seamans from contracting with the Government. On 8 December 2006, Mr. Seamans was sentenced after he pled guilty in the United States District Court, Central District of Illinois, on 3 March 2006, to committing wire fraud, and conspiracy to launder money. He was ordered to serve a 12-month-and-one-day term of imprisonment, 3 years of supervised release thereafter, to pay an assessment of

\$200, and to make restitution to the United States Army Operations Support Command in the amount of \$380,130. On 5 January 2007, Mr. Seamans was proposed for debarment, and, on 27 April 2006, he was suspended from future contracting with the Government. In October 2002, the U.S. Army directed that KBR award a subcontract to Tamimi for dining facility services at Camp Arifjan. In October 2002, Mr. Seamans negotiated the terms of the subcontract, and, in October 2002, Tamimi's Director of Operations for Kuwait and Iraq (subsequently identified as Mohammad Shabbir Khan) offered to pay Mr. Seamans a kickback in exchange for awarding Tamimi the subcontract. Mr. Seamans accepted the offer, and awarded the subcontract to Tamimi on 15 October 2002. The subcontract was awarded for a period of one year, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$14,431,505. Mr. Seamans signed the contract on behalf of KBR, representing, in part, that he had not received a kickback, bribe, or other gratuity from Tamimi for the award of the subcontract. Upon the award of the subcontract, the Resource Management Unit obligated funding toward Task Order 27, based, in part, on the premise that the award of the subcontract was not tainted by bribes, gratuities, or kickbacks. (Ms. McCaffrey)

(13) Bribery and False Claims (USFK). On 27 June 2007, the USFK SDO debarred Sinil Corp, 10 of its employees and one government employee. A CID investigation indicated that Mr. Kum Chon Choi, a branch manager at Sinil, bribed Mr. Son Han Kim, a U.S. Army employee, to ensure that construction

shortcomings and billings discrepancies were overlooked. As a result, the Government overpaid Sinil on numerous delivery orders. The investigation of the Sinil was initiated after an audit revealed measurement and construction debris overstatements, incorrect line items, and items not received on five delivery orders pertaining to the Sinil contract. During the investigation the construction inspector admitted to having received W550,000 each month, from January 2004 through August 2005 from his supervisor, Mr. Son Han Kim. Mr. Yio also received money from Mr. Kim on holidays. Mr. Kim told Mr. Yi that the money was from Mr. Choi of Sinil and told Mr. Yi not to worry about the Sinil sites, that Sinil would take care of everything. On one occasion, when Mr. Yi did go out to the Sinil site, Mr. Su Min Chae, the Sinil project manager, gave Mr. Yi W300,000 (Major Mitchell)

(14) False Claims (USFK). On 27 June 2007, the USFK SDO debarred Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd, Buil Corporation, CNI Tech, Hur Joon, an employee, Yu-Il Air Conditioning Shop and Yu, Chi Hui, another employee. In November 2005, the Area 1 Internal Review Office (IR) conducted a Special Review of the blanket purchase agreement for air handling unit heating coils. During the review, IR inspected 51 heating coils which had purportedly been replaced in fiscal years 2004 and 2005 and discovered that 41 had not been replaced during that time frame. The Government was billed and paid Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd/Buil Corporation, CNI TEC for the replacement of all 51 heating coils. The contract was originally awarded to Buil Heavy Industrial Ltd/Buil Corporation, which has changed its name to CNI TEC. CNI TEC subcon-

## SUSPENSIONS & DEBARMENTS (CONT'D ON PAGE 12)

tracted the work to Mr. Chui Uo Yu of Yu-Il Air Conditioning Shop. Mr. You had installed new insulation on some external water pipes which served to cover the company's failure to replace the heating coils. The loss to the Government is estimated to be \$94,537.00. (Major Mitchell)

### Administrative Hearings.

(1) Gratuity— Public Official (AFRC Europe). On 25 May 2007, the Army SDO held an administrative hearing and met with the representatives of Bramson House, Mr. Jules Abramson, President, and Mr. Anikeef, counsel for both Bramson House and Ellis Abramson (Mr. Ellis Abramson), regarding the company's recent proposed debarment, as well as that of its former president, Ellis A. Abramson. On 12 April 2006, Mr. Ellis Abramson pled guilty to one count of paying a gratuity to a public official and one count of traveling in interstate commerce in aid of an unlawful activity. Mr. Abramson was sentenced to six months imprisonment for each count, to be served concurrently; three years supervised release for counts one and two, to be served concurrently thereafter; ordered to pay an assessment of \$200; fined \$50,000; and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$23,000. On 1 December 2006, the Army proposed Mr. Ellis Abramson and Bramson House for debarment. In response, Mr. Anikeef, counsel for Mr. Ellis Abramson and Bramson House, submitted matters in opposition and requested to meet with the SDO. (Ms. McCaffrey)

(2) On 11 April 2007 the Army Suspension and Debarment Office met with representatives of ITT Corporation regarding the company's

recent guilty plea to two counts of violating the Arms Export Control Act as implemented by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations and entry into a deferred prosecution agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia for a third count. ITT presented materials in support of its claim that it is a presently responsible contractor and had taken steps to correct the circumstances which led to the charges against it. In addition, ITT's representatives discussed the company's overall compliance program and provided information on the manner in which it addresses internal accusations of wrongdoing, government contracting procedures and management oversight of contracts. (Mr. Persico)

### Major Army Contractor Responsibility Issues.

(1) Pinnacle Armor, Inc., Compelling Reasons Determination: On 10 July 2007, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Claude M. Bolton, Jr., issued a compelling reasons determination regarding a purchase of personal body armor from Pinnacle Armor, Inc., in accordance with FAR 9.405(a). This action was taken as the result of a proposal by the Air Force that Pinnacle Armor be debarred from contracting with the Government pursuant to FAR 9.406-2(b)(1). The Air Force's action is based on allegations of false statements by the company regarding the ballistic protection provided by its "Dragon Skin" body armor. Mr. Bolton made the determination that a compelling reason existed for Pinnacle Armor to be allowed to bid on solicitation number W91CRB-07-R-0041, issued by the Army Research, Development and Engineering Com-

mand Acquisition Center based on the company's assertions that its body armor is superior to that currently used by the Army. The exercise of the compelling reasons exception in this circumstance will allow the Army to receive bids from Pinnacle Armor for the purposes of solicitation W91CRB-07-R-0041 only. Awards made to Pinnacle Armor as a result of this solicitation remains subject to Mr. Bolton's specific authorization. (Mr. Persico)



(2) AAA Audit: Fraud Recoveries. On 16 April 2007, the CTA, Colonel Rob, and Chief, PFB, Chris McCommas, briefed MG Black, and COL Stone concerning the AAA recommendations on the recent follow-up audit of the Army criminal and civil recovery process. As part of TJAG's response to the audit, PFB will sponsor a workshop in September with DFAS, AAA, and DOJ. (Mrs. McCommas and Ms. McCaffrey)

## DID YOU KNOW? (CONT'D ON PAGE 15)



On 04 November, 2003, Specialist Marc Maffat with 1st squad C Company 1-87th Infantry 10th Mountain Division adjusts his night vision goggle before his guard duty at the mountains of Orgun E, during Operation Eastern Rumble. Operation Eastern Rumble is an effort to gain intelligence on Anti Coalition Malitia activity, confiscate illegal weapons and suspected Taliban members in the villages of Zarin Kot and Karam Kot, Orgun E, Afghanistan. U.S. PHOTO by SPC GUL A. ALISAN (Released)

### Night Vision Goggles (NVG)

During the history of warfare, operations at night have always been degraded significantly, if not totally avoided. Typically, Soldiers fighting at night have had to resort to artificial illumination, e.g., at first fire and later with light sources such as searchlights. The use of light sources on the battlefield had the detrimental result of giving away tactical positions and information about maneuvers. The advent of new technologies initially in the 1950's and continuing into the present time has changed this situation. The engineers and scientists at U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) Night Vision & Electronic Sensors Directorate (NVESD) have discovered ways to capture available electro-magnetic radiation outside that portion of the spectrum visible to the human eye and have developed

equipment to enable the American Soldier to fight as well at night as during the day.

Night vision devices (NVDs) provide night fighters with the ability to see, maneuver and shoot at night or during periods of reduced visibility. The Army used two different types of NVDs – image intensifiers and thermals. Image-Intensifying Devices are based upon light amplification and must have some light available. These devices can amplify the available light from 2,000 to 5,000 times. Thermal Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) detectors – sometimes called “sensors” – work by sensing the temperature difference between an object and its environment. FLIR systems are installed on certain combat vehicles and helicopters. NVGs are electro-optical devices that intensify

(or amplify) existing light instead of relying on a light source of their own. Image intensifiers capture ambient light and amplify it thousands of times by electronic means to display the battlefield to a Soldier via a phosphor display such as night vision goggles. This ambient light comes from the stars, moon or sky glow from distant manmade sources, such as cities. The devices are sensitive to a broad spectrum of light, from visible to infrared (invisible). Users do not look through NVGs, you look at the the amplified electronic image on a phosphor screen.

Light enters the NVG through an objective lens and strikes a photo cathode powered by a high energy charge from the power supply. The energy charge accelerates across a vacuum inside the intensifier and strikes a phosphor screen (like a TV screen) where the image is focused. The eyepiece magnifies the the image.

An NVG phosphor screen is purposefully colored green because the human eye can differentiate more shades of green than other phosphor colors. Like cameras, NVGs have various image magnifications. The distance at which a human-sized figure can be clearly recognized under normal conditions (moon and star light, with no haze or fog) depends on both the magnifying power of the objective lens and the strength of the image intensifier. The maximum viewing range is 100 feet to 400 feet.

A Soldier can conduct his combat missions without any active illumination sources using only image intensifiers. The main advantages of image intensifiers as night vision devices are their small size, light weight, low power requirements and

## DID YOU KNOW? (CONT'D ON PAGE 16)

low cost. These attributes have enabled image intensifier goggles for head-worn, individual Soldier applications and resulted in hundreds of thousands of night vision goggles to be procured by the U.S. Army. Research and development continues today on image intensifiers in the areas of longer wavelength spectral response, higher sensitivity, larger fields of view and increased resolution.

The view through NVDs can be a lot like looking down a tunnel. Your normal field of view is almost 190 degrees – but that is cut down to 40 degrees with NVDs. That side -- or “peripheral” -- vision you’re accustomed to, and from which you often see dangers, is just not there. To adjust for that you must constantly turn your head to scan for the dangers on either side of you that you can’t see in your narrow field of view.

At their best, NVGs cannot provide the same level of sharpness to what you see as what you’re accustomed to in the daytime. While normal vision is 20/20, NVGs can, at best, provide only 20/25 to 20/40, and even this is possible only during optimal illumination and when you have a high-contrast target or scene. As either illumination or contrast decreases, the NVG’s visual acuity drops, giving you an even more “fuzzy” image.

Normally you use both eyes (binocular vision) to pick up cues to help estimate the distance and depth of an object. However, with NVDs you are essentially using one eye (monocular) vision, which can pose real problems. For example, when you are wearing NVDs and you view two objects of different sizes that are side-by-side, the larger object appears to be nearer. When you view overlapping objects through an NVD, the one that is in front “appears” to be nearer – maybe much more so than is true. In addition, some objects viewed through NVGs may appear to be farther away than they actu-

ally are. The reason for that is that we tend to associate the loss of detail sharpness with distance. On the other hand, a light source that is not part of a terrain feature – for example, a light atop a tower – may look closer than it actually is. It’s important to be aware of these potential problems and that NVG users tend to overestimate distance and underestimate depth (how tall an object is).

Your eye needs time to adjust from day to night vision. That’s why you can barely see when you first enter a dark movie theater during the daytime – your eyes need time to adjust to the darkness. So it is with NVGs. You are basically getting a dim-day view, so when you remove your NVGs, your eyes need time to adapt to the darkness. The amount of time you need depends on how long you have been wearing the NVGs. Most people achieve about a 75 percent dark-adaptation within 30 seconds of removing the goggles. This is especially important to keep in mind if you are using your NVGs as binoculars – basically lifting them to your eyes and then lowering them.

Military tacticians throughout history have seen the advantages of being able to maneuver effectively under cover of darkness. Historically, maneuvering large armies at night carried such risks that it was rarely attempted. During WW II, the United States, Britain, and Germany worked to develop rudimentary night vision technology. For example, a useful infrared sniper scope that used near-infrared cathodes coupled to visible phosphors to provide a near-infrared image converter was fielded. However this device had several disadvantages. The infrared sniper scope required an active IR searchlight that was so large it had to be mounted on

a flatbed truck. This active IR searchlight could be detected by any enemy soldiers equipped with similar equipment. The rifle-mounted scope also required cumbersome batteries and provided limited range.

The infrared sniper scope showed that night vision technology was on the horizon. Military leaders immediately saw many uses for this technology beyond sniping at the enemy under cover of darkness. An army equipped with night vision goggles, helmets, and weapons sights would be able to operate 24 hours a day. The Army Corps of Engineers, for example, would be able to build bridges and repair roads at night providing a measure of safety from airborne attack. The next challenge in night vision technology would be the development of passive systems that did not require IR searchlights that might give away a Soldier's position to the enemy.

Through the 1950's, Night Vision focused on improving upon the cascade image tube, a development of the Germans during WW II. Scientists at the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) were contracted to research and develop a near-infrared, two-stage cascade image tube. Using a new multi-alkali photocathode (developed at RCA), the new cascade image tube performed beyond everyone's expectations. This new system, known as Image Intensification, gathered ambient light from the moon and the stars in the night sky and intensified this light. Night Vision quickly adjusted their plans to improve upon this system. There were certain challenges attendant with this new technology: the gain was limited and the output image was upside down. A third electrostatic stage added to the tube resulted

## DID YOU KNOW? (CONT'D ON PAGE 17)



A soldier from Alpha Company 1/505 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division pulls perimeter guard during a night mission in search of two former Iraqi Republican Guard generals hiding in the town of Al Fallujah, Iraq, in the early morning hours of Nov. 3, 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Charles B. Johnson) (Released)

in more gain and re-inverted the image, but the tube grew to 17 inches long and 3.5 inches in diameter to maintain adequate edge resolution. This made the system too large for military applications. However, these developments were a major step forward in the development of passive, man-portable night vision systems.

By the mid-1960's, scientists and engineers at Night Vision fielded the first generation of passive night vision devices for U.S. troops, including a Small Starlight Scope that served as a rifle-mounted sight or as a handheld viewer. Realizing these systems were far from perfected, Night Vision research personnel came to refer to the development of this early equipment as the First Generation Image Intensifier Program. Scientists and engineers would go on to improve upon this technology to deliver a second and third generation of night vision equipment.

The first generation Small Starlight Scope was soon put to practical use in the field. With the United States' growing involvement in Vietnam, U.S. Soldiers quickly recognized that they faced an enemy that relied on the cover of darkness to conduct its maneuvers and offensive operations. In 1964, the U.S. Army issued night vision equipment to the troops in Vietnam. The Vietnam War proved to be an important stage in the development of night vision systems.

Thermal imaging, based on the far infrared spectrum, forms an image of objects by sensing the differences between the heat radiated by a particular object or target and its surrounding environment. Up until the 1970's, early prototypes using this technology were very expensive.

While Night Vision focused much of its research and development efforts

on developing practical night vision equipment based on near-infrared technology, Night Vision scientists were also striving for a technological advance that would lead the way to feasible Far Infrared night vision equipment. The technological advances that would lead Night Vision into developing thermal imaging systems in the 1970's was the advent of linear scanning imagers, consisting of multiple-element detector arrays. The multiple element arrays provided a high-performance, real-time framing imager that could be practically applied to military uses. This technology would lead to targeting and navigation systems known as Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) systems. FLIR systems provide the advantage of 'seeing' not only at night but also through many smokes, fogs, and other obscuring conditions.

FLIR imaging systems capability became much in demand for all weapon systems platforms, spawning a proliferation of designs and prototypes for the various weapons platforms. As a result, a group of experts from NVL developed a design for a Universal Viewer for Far Infrared in 1973 that led to the family of Common Modules that were fielded by the thousands across many different platforms. The Common Modules based FLIR systems realized significant cost savings over previous designs. The major test of these technological efforts came in late 1990 early 1991 when Iraqi armed forces invaded Kuwait. The United States of America and its allies immediately mobilized to force Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in Operation Desert Storm. Night vision systems would prove vital to operating in the desert environment.

## DID YOU KNOW?

As in Vietnam, Operation Desert Storm showed Night Vision scientists and engineers that improvements could be made.

The night vision industry has evolved through three stages, or "Generations," of development. Generation I technology is obsolete in the US market. Products are offered on Generation II, II+, III, and III+. Each generation offers more sensitivity and can operate effectively on less light. Operating life expectancy of Generation I image intensifier tubes was about 2000 hours. Generation II tubes have a life expectancy from 2,500 hours to 4000 hours. Continuing improvements have increased the operating life expectancy of Generation III tubes to 10,000 hours. This makes tube replenishment for the system virtually unnecessary. This is an important consideration when the intensifier tube normally represents 50% of the overall cost of the night vision system. Most natural backgrounds reflect infrared light more readily than visible light. When reflectance differences between discernable objects are maximized, viewing contrast increases, making potential terrain hazards and targets far more distinguishable. Gen III's high infrared response complements this phenomenon, creating a sharper, more informative image.

Text reprinted from:<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/ground/nvg.htm>

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PARTING SHOTS: ANOTHER DAY OF DOING GOOD



Photo by [Senior Airman Kristin Ruleau](#)  
July 17, 2007

A Soldier from the 25th Infantry Division, a U.S. Airman and a Turkish Air Force member transport an Iraqi child from the Kirkuk Regional Air Base to Ankara, Turkey, for treatment, July 8. She and nearly 30 others were injured in a terrorist attack in Tuz Khurmat, Iraq. The injured are of Turkmen ethnicity.



Photo by [PFC. Micah E. Clare](#)

July 10, 2007  
Staff Sgt. Vicente Cisneros, from the 413th Civil Affairs Detachment, examines a girl for upper respiratory infections at an orphanage in Ghazni city, eastern Afghanistan.

These photos appeared on [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil).