



U.S. OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20036-4505

January 20, 2006

The Special Counsel

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Re: OSC File No. DI-05-1839

Dear Mr. President:

I received disclosures from a whistleblower at the Department of Defense (DOD) Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Distribution Depot, Anniston, Alabama, (DDAA). The whistleblower, who has requested anonymity, alleged that critical military equipment and supplies are inadequately inspected, packaged, and stored at DDAA. As discussed in the attached Analysis of Disclosures, an agency investigation substantiated the whistleblower's allegations. DDAA's improper tracking and storage of military equipment significantly increases the risk that military units in the field will receive equipment or supplies that do not comport with their requests or meet their needs. As we are a nation at war, I am sure you will agree that our combat troops cannot afford to have their safety or efficacy compromised by lapses in the supply chain such as these.

I required the Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, to conduct an investigation into the whistleblower's disclosures pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 1213(c) and (d). The Secretary delegated authority to conduct an investigation and sign the agency report to the DOD Office of the Inspector General. On November 29, 2005, Thomas F. Gimble, Acting Inspector General, submitted a report to this office. The whistleblower declined to provide comments on the agency report to this office pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 1213(e)(1). As required by law, 5 U.S.C. § 1213(e)(3), I am now transmitting the report to you.

We have reviewed the agency report and have determined that it contains all of the information required by statute and the agency's findings appear to be reasonable. As required by § 1213(e)(3), I have sent a copy of the report to the Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Armed Services. We have also filed a copy of the report in our public file and closed the matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Bloch".

Scott J. Bloch

Enclosures