

19 October, 2005

Department of Defense Inspector General
Defense Hotline
The Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1900

To the Inspector General,

We take this opportunity to inform you of possible criminal activity at the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), MacDill AFB, Florida. The following examples indicate conflicts of interest, preferential treatment and undue command influence by General Bryan "Doug" Brown with former retired general officers with which he served and other officers that served for him. These examples, as a minimum, need to be investigated.

General Brown directed a sole source contract to a company named Etrepid Technologies, LLC. Background: General Brown received a briefing in the late fall of 2003 from Etrepid Technologies with out any coordination and or approval from the Command's Technical Industrial Liaison Officer. This briefing was arranged through the "General's good old boy network." General Brown, through the acting Acquisition Executive (AE) ordered a contract to be put in place immediately. This action did not follow established procedures in accordance with SOCOM procedures and directives. This was totally out of line on how business is conducted at USSOCOM. The justification and authorization (J&A) for this contract was "hand jammed" because the head contracting officer and the competition advocate are the same person. This is a conflict of interest. The competition advocate is supposed to oversee the contracting process, especially when a sole source contract is going to be put in place. Also, there was no market survey prior to this contract award. There are other companies that can perform the task or deliver the product that Etrepid had claimed it could do. This contract was not supported by the Program Executive Officer for Special Programs (PEO-SP) and the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). The PEO-SP had his deputy and C4I Systems Acquisition Manager handle the contract because of the pressure he received from the acting AE. The acting AE was intimidated by General Brown. Actually, most people in the command fear the general. As of today, the program has wasted approximately \$12 million. No useable product has been delivered. The product and use are classified. General Brown should be held accountable for this. This is an example of waste and fraud. It is not known what the general's personal relationship is with Etrepid. The rumor is that he takes personal phone calls from Etrepid owners. Actions such as this do not comply with good order and discipline and violate acquisition policy. This is out of line for a commander. It is not known whether or not the contract is classified, however the end user is. Personnel who can be contacted to assist in an investigation into this program are Captain Rowland Huss, PEO-SP, Colonel (Retired) Payne former Deputy AE, Colonel (Retired) Tom Spellissy former PEO-SP, Mr. Stan Highsmith former Deputy PEO-SP, C4I personnel at the USSOCOM's Combat Assessment Group and Mr. Dana Huseman (JSOC).

General Brown has a "pet" program being run by Mr. John Shipley at Fort Eustis, VA. This is a classified program. This program is the most poorly executed program in USSOCOM. It is years behind schedule and has huge cost overruns. The budget has been padded for management

reserve and the program has been falsely briefed to Congress over several years. Personnel at USSOCOM don't personally brief this to anyone, especially outside the command because they are not allowed and most don't want to touch this program because they know it is a waste of money. In January, 2002 an Air Force brigadier general questioned from JSOC the requirement at an internal review and the Assessment Director left the room to call General Brown. We learned later that the brigadier general was almost fired. Ironically, we learned the Assessment Director (one of the General's boys) who resourced and allocated ten of millions of dollars to this program and hundreds of millions to other unclassified programs in the same commodity area to the same contractor went to work for the primary contractor, BOEING, and no one in a key leadership positions at USSOCOM questioned it. Also, no one was allowed to move money in or out of this program without flag officer approval (vetted through General Brown). This is also the program where allegedly the Comptroller wanted to park additional funding in and the PEO Special Programs or the classified financial analyst refused to do it. Also, the Milestone Decision Authority is the Program Manager - this is also not proper procedure. There is no oversight - no one is checking the checker. Congressional staffers are aware of this poorly performing program and every time they go to cut it, the General falls on his sword for this program. It was never documented that a user/operator demanded this capability. This program is a waste of money when at the time we had Congressional interest in shortages in body armor, armored vehicles and other soldier protection equipment. Personnel to talk to are Ms Susan Hogan, former Senate Appropriations Committee Staffer, Ms. Lesley Kalen, Senate Appropriations Committee Staffer, Colonel Chris Perkins, former USSOCOM Legislative Affairs, Ms Elaine Kingston, former USSOCOM Comptroller, Ms Margaret Iverson, PEO-SP classified finance analyst, Captain Rowland Huss, PEO-SP, Colonel (Retired) Tom Spellissy, former PEO-SP, Colonel (Retired) Dave Lawrence, former Aviation Assessment Director, Colonel (Retired) John Peska, former Ground Assessment Director, Captain (Retired) Jack Mendez former classified Assessment Director and LTC (Retired) Gene Buckner, original action officer for the program, Colonel Fran Machina former J-8 JSOC and Dana Huseman, JSOC.

On or about September, 2004, General Brown received a call from Congressman Duncan Hunter inquiring about USSOCOM's night vision and target acquisition capability. Congressman Hunter was telling the story on CSPAN on how USSOCOM helped him out by delivering night vision devices and target acquisition equipment to the Marine Corps in Iraq. I am happy to see General Brown help the Marine Corps because while I was at USSOCOM he never said anything good about the Marines. Anyway, unfortunately, General Brown broke the law in what he did. Here are the facts. General Brown directed PEO-SP to spend approximately \$96,000.00 of MFP-11 to purchase Special Operations peculiar night vision and target acquisition equipment (AN/PVS-17As, ACOGs, EOTECH sights and Leoupold scopes) for a Marine Corps Unit in Fallujah, Iraq. General Brown directed that the equipment be brought to Congressman Hunter's office and that the Congressman be briefed on the equipment. No one from USSOCOM Headquarters could make it to Washington because of weather conditions in Tampa. Two operators from Naval Special Warfare Development Group were tasked to accomplish this mission. They used a military aircraft to fly to Washington DC to brief Congressman Hunter. The Congressman selected the equipment to send to the Marines. The equipment was shipped from Crane, IN to Charleston, SC and picked up by a PEO-SP Program Manager (PM) who was going to Iraq to deliver equipment for SOF. The PM delivered the units

to the Marine Corps unit. Obviously, General Brown did this personal favor for the Congressman because General Brown wants to keep Congressional support and funding coming to USSOCOM. Congressman Hunter is a powerful person in Congress. I am glad the Congressman was able to his son this special equipment! I am sure other Marines would appreciate the same equipment. The general knows better - MFP-11 money is for SOF only - Title K (Cohen and Nunn Authorization Act - 1987) and the \$96,000.00 was misappropriated and he used his personnel to do a favor for the congressman. Personnel to contact are Captain J. Rowland Huss, PEO-SP and LTC Donald Heilig, former Systems Acquisition Manager for Weapons, PEO-SP.

There was an investigation at JSOC during the spring of 2005 on a classified program. The unclassified code name is ROVER. General Brown took the investigation away from the Commander at JSOC. He later gave it back to JSOC after he made sure that there would be no repercussions against the personnel involved. One person received an administrative letter of reprimand and was allowed to retire. A former GS-14 from JSOC went to work for the prime contractor after making decisions on the contracts. There were two contracts put in place, a \$50 million USSOCOM and a \$26 million U.S. Army contract by the officer who was investigated. Later we found out there are two of General Brown's retired general officer friends sitting on the board of directors for the prime contractor, Nevada Sierra Corporation. The retired general officers are General Downing, former USSOCOM Commander and General Garrison, former JSOC Commander. This should be investigated.

We also learned that General Holland, former commander of USSOCOM works for Aeroenvironment, a prime contractor for USSOCOM unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). General Holland directed well over \$10 million dollars to purchase UAVs from this company. How can he be allowed to work for a company where he was responsible for directing well over \$10 million in procurement? General Brown directed a UAV Program Office be formed at USSOCOM to make it easier for his buddy, General Holland to do business at USSOCOM.

General Brown was visiting the Joint Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, NC back in July 05 and was quoted as saying "there are 14 investigations going on at USSOCOM and some of these people are going to do hard time." This is another example of undue command influence and finding or insinuating that people are guilty of a crime before an investigation is complete. This grossly violates our judicial system because he has great influence over disciplinary actions at USSOCOM.

There are rumors that General Brown is conducting investigations at USSOCOM as favor to one of his friends, Major General (Retired) Lou Hennis. Hennies is a consultant for a company that doesn't fare well at USSOCOM and Hennies is trying to get back at people who he feels is a threat to his company. Several people have already been administratively fired without cause! We also know that Hennies and Colonel (Retired) Spellissy didn't get along - this is probably why the Colonel is under investigation. This is just another example of General Brown taking care of his friends.

Also, there are rumors are all over USSOCOM that General Brown is trying to protect Elaine Kington because of events back when she used to work for him when he was a one star.

USSOCOM IG and lawyers were initially helping her when the scandal broke – this was done at the direction of General Brown- not normal procedure at USSOCOM. Also, a rumor, General Brown was looking into how the command could pay for Ms. Kingston's legal bills – again not a normal practice or procedure.

There is an organization named the Night Stalker Association. Membership is for former Task Force 160th personnel. The Association takes money from companies like Boeing and throws parties for General Brown and his friends. The USSOCOM Legal Office recommended that anyone who wants to take USSOCOM flag officers out to dinner to expensive restaurants like Shula's or Flemings should not (bad perception) – instead they should give the money through the Association (launder the money) because it is a non-profit and then the generals could go and party for free. The last party thrown was in Tampa at the USSOCOM APBI, June 2005

General Brown is the master of forcing Colonels and Captains to retire, especially the ones he does not like. Check the statistic on how many O-6s have retired since General Brown took over.

There are so many more issues at USSOCOM since General Brown took over as the Commander. We could go on and on. For example, CV22 and ASDS are two more programs that have millions of dollars being spent with no clear requirement and actually the flag officers, behind closed doors, agree they are wasting money. You can't even get a decent combat vehicle into a CV-22, hey, USSOCOM, we have a problem! All USSOCOM flag officers know this to be true, however, they are afraid to tell Congress the truth because of political backlash. There are more aviators walking around USSOCOM than at Fort Rucker, just kidding – you get the message. Actually, there is a joke at USSOCOM – it goes like this- the reason why we can't find Osama Bin Laden is because we got too many aviators on the ground working here. As you can conclude, something needs to be changed at USSOCOM. Best of luck looking into all this.

Sincerely,

A few former and present USSOCOM Employees

Copy to:

Senator Bill Nelson
Congressman Bill Young

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