

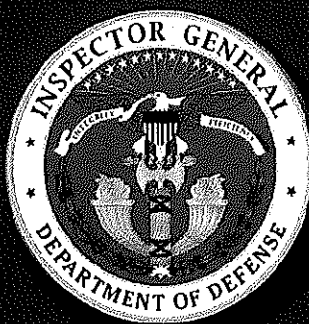
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Report No. DODIG-2014-008

November 7, 2013

Inspector General

United States
Department of Defense



Contract and Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in
Afghanistan Should Be Strengthened

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(U) Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACC-RI	Army Contracting Command–Rock Island
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
DCOS-OPS	Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations
GAO	Government Accountability Office
IO	Information Operations
MISO	Military Information Support Operations
MISTF-A	Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan
PDD	Product Development Detachment
PWS	Performance Work Statement
QASP	Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
USFOR-A	U.S. Forces–Afghanistan
VTED	Validation, Testing, and Evaluation Detachment

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INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22350-1500

November 7, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, U.S. FORCES-AFGHANISTAN
AUDITOR GENERAL, U.S. ARMY

SUBJECT: (U) Contract and Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in
Afghanistan Should Be Strengthened (Report No. DODIG-2014-008)

(U) We are providing this report for your review and comment. Army Contracting Command-Rock Island awarded contract W52PIJ-09-D-0053 to Leonie Industries, LLC on August 6, 2009, to both produce and assess information support operations products in support of the Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan. The Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan's contract and controls over the information operations assessment process should be strengthened.

(U) We considered management comments on a draft of this report when preparing the final report. DoD Directive 7650.3 requires that recommendations be resolved promptly. Comments from the Commander, Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan, were generally responsive, and we do not require additional comments. However, we did not receive comments from the Director, Army Contracting Command-Rock Island. Therefore, we request comments on Recommendations 1.a-b and 2 by December 6, 2013.

(U) Please provide comments that conform to the requirements of DoD Directive 7650.3. Please send a PDF file containing your comments. Copies of your comments must have the actual signature of the authorizing official for your organization. We cannot accept the /Signed/ symbol in place of the actual signature. If you arrange to send classified comments electronically, you must send them over the SECRET Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNET).

(U) We appreciate the courtesies extended to the staff. Please direct questions to me at (703) 604-(b)(6) DSN 664-(b)(6). If you desire, we will provide a formal briefing on the results.

(b)(6)

Amy J. Frontz
Principal Assistant Inspector General
for Auditing

cc:

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY
COMMANDER, U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
COMMANDER, U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND
DIRECTOR, JOINT STAFF

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Results in Brief: Contract and Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in Afghanistan Should Be Strengthened

(U) What We Did

(U) Our objective was to determine whether U.S. Forces–Afghanistan (USFOR-A) had implemented sufficient controls for assessments of information operations (IO). Specifically, we focused on the assessments of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) conducted under USFOR-A contract W52P1J-09-D-0053 in Afghanistan.

(U) What We Found

(U) Army Contracting Command–Rock Island (ACC-RI) awarded contract W52P1J-09-D-0053 to Leonie Industries, LLC on August 6, 2009, to both produce and assess MISO products in support of Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan (MISTF-A). We determined that the contract and MISTF-A controls over the MISO assessment process should be strengthened.

(U) Specifically, the contract's performance work statement (PWS) did not separate responsibilities related to producing and assessing MISO products to prevent the appearance of conflicting roles. Further, the contracting officer did not sufficiently define measurable performance standards in the PWS to clearly identify contract deliverables or include evaluation methods in the quality assurance surveillance plan (QASP) to enable the contracting officer's representative (COR) to objectively assess completion of the contract tasks. This occurred because the contracting officer did not satisfy contracting requirements by including measurable performance standards in the PWS for contract tasks and methods for evaluating contractor performance in the QASP.

(U) In addition, MISTF-A standard operating procedures (SOPs) did not contain specificity on the roles and responsibilities of its production and assessment branches and the role of the contractor

(U) in the assessment process. This occurred because MISTF-A relied on its informal procedures, and only recently began to formalize its best practices in its SOPs.

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

(U) What We Recommend

(U) We recommend that the Contracting Officer, ACC-RI, in consultation with the Commander, MISTF-A, modify the contract to clearly describe the contractor's assessment roles and responsibilities, and include specific measurable performance standards in the PWS to clearly identify contract deliverables and clearly define the methods for evaluating the completion of PWS tasks in the QASP. We also recommend that the Commander, MISTF-A modify SOPs to include additional details on MISO production and assessment processes.

(U) Management Comments and Our Response

(U) Comments from the Commander, MISTF-A, were responsive, and we do not require additional comments. However, we did not receive comments from ACC-RI; therefore, we request comments from the Director, ACC-RI. Please see the recommendations table on the back of this page.

(U) Recommendations Table

Management	Recommendations Requiring Comment	No Additional Comments Required
Commander, Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan		1.a-b, 2, 3.a-e
Director, Army Contracting Command–Rock Island	1.a-b, 2	

(U) Please provide comments by December 6, 2013.

(U) Table of Contents

(U) Introduction	1
Objectives	1
Background	1
Review of Internal Controls	3
(U) Finding. The Contract For and Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in Afghanistan Need Refinement	5
Limitations of the Contract Performance Work Statement and Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan	6
Improvements Needed to Strengthen Standard Operating Procedures	8
Objectivity and Quality of MISTF-A Assessments At Risk	11
Recommendations, Management Comments, and Our Response	11
(U) Appendixes	
A. Scope and Methodology	15
Use of Computer-Processed Data	16
Use of Technical Assistance	16
Prior Coverage	16
B. Observed MISTF-A Processes for Pre- and Post-Dissemination of Information Operation Products	18
(U) Management Comments	
MISTF-A Comments	20
(U) List of Classified Documents	21

(U) Introduction

(U) Objectives

(U) Our objective was to determine whether the U.S. Forces–Afghanistan (USFOR-A) has implemented sufficient controls for assessments of information operations (IO). Specifically, we focused on the assessments of military information support operations (MISO) conducted under USFOR-A contract W52P1J-09-D-0053 in Afghanistan. See appendix A for a discussion of the audit scope and methodology and prior audit coverage related to this report's audit objective.

(U) Background

(U) Information Operations

(U) IO is the integrated employment, during military operations, of information-related capabilities in concert with other lines of operations to influence, disrupt, corrupt, or usurp the decision making of adversaries and potential adversaries while protecting our own. IO is employed to support full-spectrum dominance by taking advantage of information technology, maintaining U.S. strategic dominance in network technologies, and capitalizing on near real-time global dissemination of information to affect adversary decision cycles with the goal of achieving information superiority for the United States.

(U) MISO are planned operations to convey selected information and indicators to foreign audiences to influence their emotions, motives, objective reasoning, and ultimately the behavior of foreign governments, organizations, groups, and individuals in a manner favorable to the originator's objectives.

(U) Joint Doctrine for Assessments

(U) Several publications set out joint doctrine for conducting assessments. Joint Publication 5-0, "Joint Operation Planning," August 11, 2011, defines assessment as a process that measures progress of the joint force toward mission accomplishment. Assessment helps the commander determine progress toward attaining the desired end state, achieving objectives, or performing tasks. Joint Publication 3-13, "Information Operations," November 27, 2012, notes that IO assessments are integrated into all phases of the planning and execution cycle, and consist of assessment activities associated with tasks, events, or programs in support of joint military operations. Assessment seeks to analyze and inform on decision makers in order to modify activities to achieve desired results.

(U) Joint Publication 3-13.02, "Military Information Support Operations," January 7, 2010, highlights the importance of quantifiable and timely assessment criteria and identifies that it should be established early within each planning phase, evaluated often, and adjusted as necessary throughout the campaign to ensure objectives are met.

(U) Roles and Responsibilities

(U) USFOR-A conducts support functions for all U.S. forces assigned in Afghanistan. USFOR-A executes operational control of detainee operations and conducts direct liaison with the U.S. Embassy and other U.S. organizations.

~~(SECRET//REL USA, ACGU)~~ MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)




**(U) Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan
Standard Operating Procedures**

(U) MISTF-A has one detachment for MISO product development, the Product Development Detachment (PDD), and one detachment for assessments, the Validation, Testing, and Evaluation Detachment (VTED). MISTF-A developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for both the product development and assessment detachments: "MISTF-A Product Development Detachment Standard Operating Procedures," updated March 17, 2013, and "Standard Operating Procedures for the Validation, Testing, and Evaluation Detachment, MISTF-A," December 19, 2012.


~~(FOUO)~~ MISTF-A's PDD is responsible for MISO product development. Specifically, the creative team of the PDD produces storyboards and scripts from intent through concept to end state. The PDD is divided into three sections which include management, development, and audio/visual. On August 26, 2011, Task Force 41¹ established the PDD SOP to provide an outline of procedures for developing MISO audio and visual products for internal operations. Task Force 89² updated the PDD SOP on January 23, 2013, and again on March 17, 2013.

~~(FOUO)~~ MISTF-A's VTED is responsible for providing feedback on the effectiveness of each MISO product for use in product and target audience refinement. VTED accomplishes this through monthly survey data, intelligence reporting, and various other data inputs in order to collect impact indicators and develop trend analysis. On

¹ ~~(S//NF)~~ MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



² ~~(S//NF)~~ MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



~~(FOUO)~~ December 19, 2012, Task Force 85³ established the VTED SOP to provide general guidance for managing opinion research, geospatial analysis, and cultural advisory functions in support of MISTF-A assessments of objectives and effects.

(U) Contract Support for IO

~~(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO)~~ USCENTCOM - (b)(1) 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) Contracting Officer's Representative Duties

(U) The contracting officer's representative (COR) is responsible for the duties assigned to him by the ACC-RI Contracting Officer (contracting officer). The COR assesses Leonie on its work related to the contract on a monthly basis. The COR compiles the information based on personal observations and feedback from MISTF-A personnel into a COR monthly report that is provided to the contracting officer at ACC-RI. The contracting officer compiles the COR monthly reports into an annual assessment that is loaded into the Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System.

(U) The COR stated that Leonie submits a monthly invoice for payment to him. The COR explained that he is responsible for collecting and reviewing the monthly invoices, which list all of the MISO products produced during the month, for accuracy. The COR stated he reviewed each invoice to verify that the MISO products were received, the work done was satisfactory according to the contract language, and the invoice amount was correct. Finally, the COR stated that he sends the invoice to ACC-RI, where it performs a secondary review and submit the invoice in Wide-Area Workflow for payment by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

(U) Review of Internal Controls

(U) DoD Instruction 5010.40, "Managers Internal Control Program (MICP) Procedures," July 29, 2010, requires DoD organizations to implement a comprehensive system of internal controls that provides reasonable assurance that programs are operating as intended and to evaluate the effectiveness of the controls. We identified that MISTF-A's contract and controls for assessing MISO in Afghanistan should be strengthened. Specifically, the contracting officer did not satisfy contracting requirements in the

³ ~~(S//NF)~~ USCENTCOM - (b)(1) 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

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(U) Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and DoD guidance for performance-based acquisition of services. Additionally, MISTF-A relied on its informal procedures instead of formalizing procedures into SOPs. We will provide a copy of the report to the senior officials responsible for internal controls at ACC-RI and MISTF-A.

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(U) Finding. The Contract For and Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in Afghanistan Need Refinement

(U) MISTF-A's contract W52P1J-09-D-0053, the supporting QASP, and MISTF-A SOPs needed refinement. Specifically, the contracting officer, in the contract's PWS, did not sufficiently:

- (U) separate contractor personnel responsibilities related to producing and assessing MISO products to preclude the appearance of conflicting roles for contractor personnel; and
- (U) define measurable performance standards to clearly identify the content of contract deliverables, such as assessment results.

(U) Also, the contracting officer, in the QASP, did not include the methods for evaluating the sufficiency of work related to PWS tasks to enable the COR to objectively assess contractor performance. This occurred because the contracting officer did not satisfy contracting requirements in the FAR and DoD guidance for performance-based acquisition of services.

(U) In addition, MISTF-A SOPs did not contain specificity on the roles and responsibilities of its product development and assessment detachments and the role of the contractor in the assessment process. This occurred because MISTF-A relied on its informal procedures, and only recently began to formalize the procedures into SOPs.


(S//NF)

USCENTCOM (b)(1) 1.4(g), 1.4(g), (b)(5)



(U) Limitations of the Contract Performance Work Statement and Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

(U) Clarification Needed on Separating Production and Assessment Responsibilities

(U) The PWS did not specifically separate responsibilities for contractor personnel for producing and assessing MISO products to prevent the appearance of a conflict of interest. FAR Subpart 9.505, "General Rules," identifies that one of the underlying principles in avoiding organizational conflicts of interest⁵ is to prevent the existence of conflicting roles that might bias a contractor's judgment.

(S//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(S//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)


⁴ (FOUO) Production of the prototype product is a joint effort involving the MISO planners, audio/visual editors and multi-media illustrators, VTED, cultural advisors, and translators.

⁵ (U) FAR Part 2, "Definitions of Words and Terms," identifies that an organizational conflict of interest occurs when activities impair or potentially impair a person's objectivity in performing the contract work.

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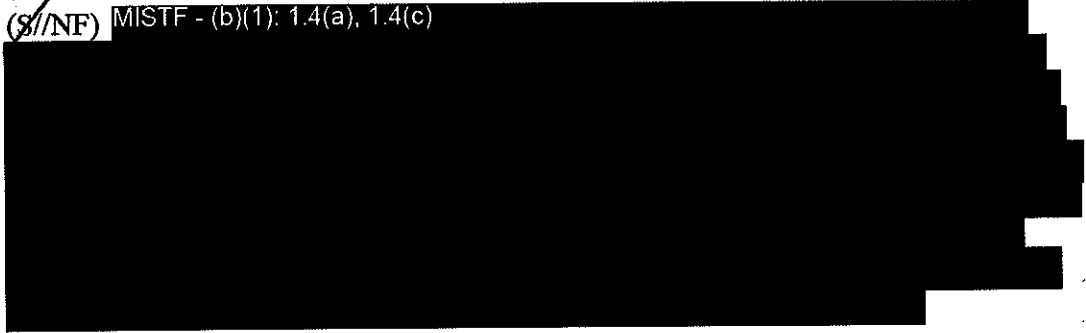
(U) Contract and Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan Did Not Define Measurable Performance Standards for Contract Deliverables

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) Performance Work Statement

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan

(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



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(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(C//REL TO USA, ISAF, NATO) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) The contracting officer is responsible for ensuring performance of all necessary actions for effective contracting, which includes providing the COR with the methods for evaluating the completion of PWS tasks in the


(U) *Without specific methods and PWS measures, the COR was limited in his ability to objectively determine that the contractor provided quality work.*

QASP. Without specific methods and PWS measures, the COR was limited in his ability to objectively determine that the contractor provided quality work. The contracting officer, in consultation with MISTF-A, should modify the PWS to include specific measurable performance standards for tasks and modify the QASP to include

the methods for assessing the performance of contractor tasks.

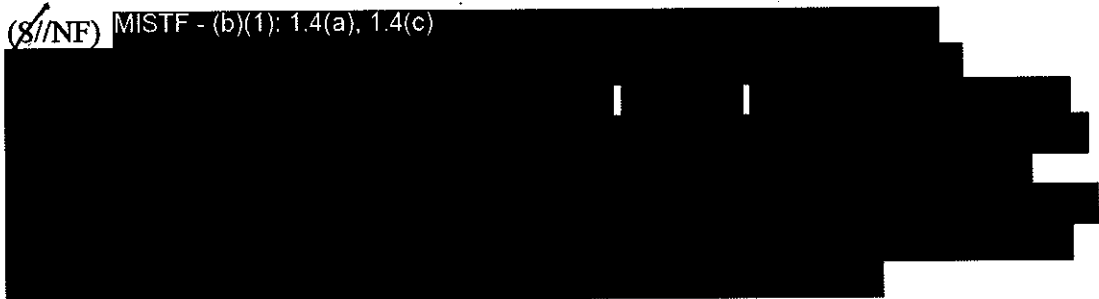
(U) Improvements Needed to Strengthen Standard Operating Procedures

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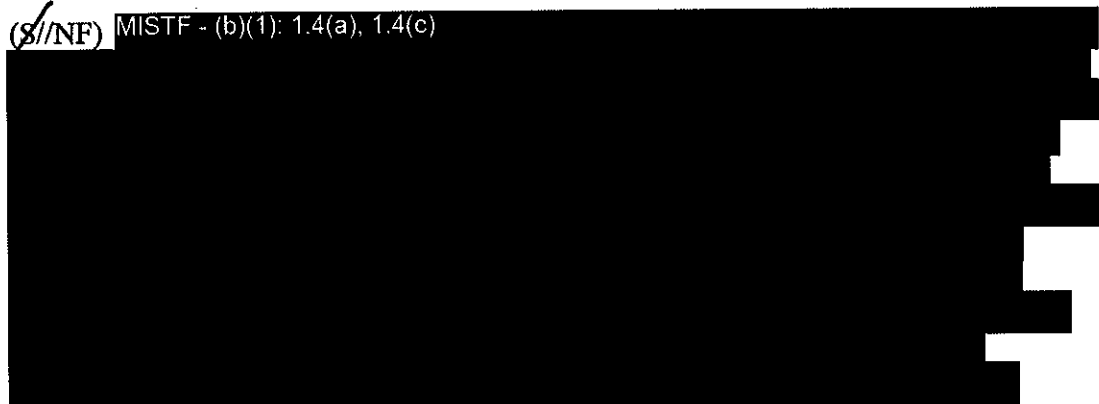


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(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) SOPs Did Not Provide Sufficient Detail to Ensure Continuity of Operations

(S//NF) USCENTCOM - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(S//NF) USCENTCOM - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



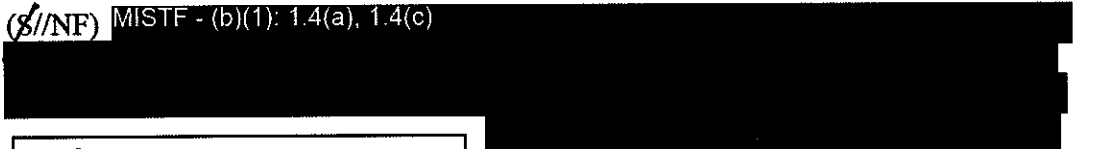
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⁶ (U) Control activities are the policies, procedures, techniques, and mechanisms that enforce management's directives.

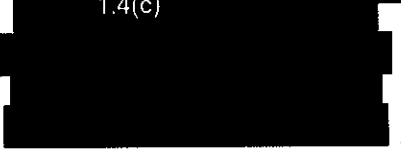
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(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

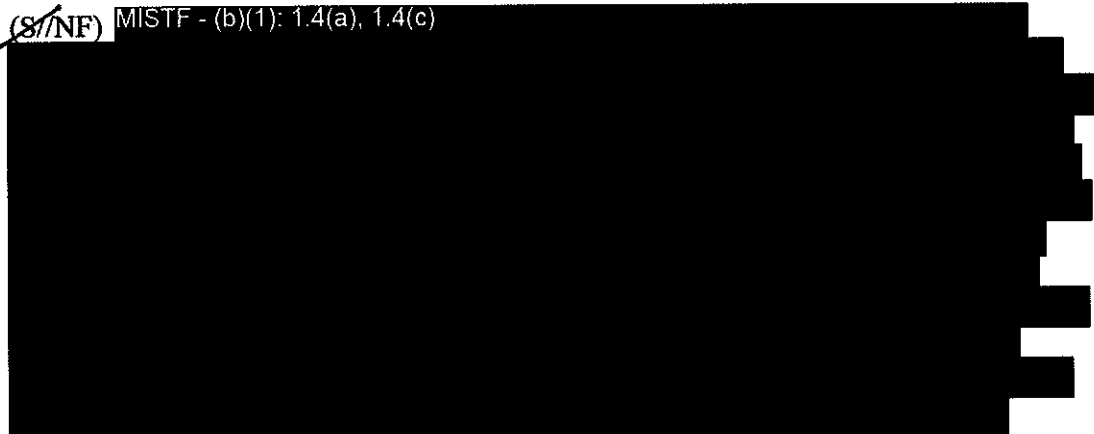


(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a),
1.4(c)




(U) Continuity of Operations Between Task Force Rotations Needed


(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)




(U) MISTF-A Relied on Informal Procedures

~~(FOUO)~~ MISTF-A relied on informal procedures and had only recently begun to formalize the procedures into SOPs during December 2012. According to a MISTF-A official, one of the first units to staff the task force created an operations plan with a great deal of specificity, then decided the details should be pulled out of the operations plan and incorporated into an SOP with supporting annexes. However, the task force was unable to fully develop the SOP before their redeployment and none of the subsequent task forces have finished it. The MISTF-A Commander stated that he assumed command on November 30, 2012, and that the previous unit had made efforts to incorporate the informal procedures into SOPs, but he recognized that additional improvements needed to be made and directed his section leaders to take action to finalize the PDD and VTED SOPs. Although the initial versions of the PDD and VTED SOPs were developed by MISTF-A, they did not contain specificity on key controls in the production and assessment processes. *MISTF-A should modify SOPs to include additional details on: segregation of duties for the contractor; documentation of approval of contractor actions throughout the MISO development process; the roles and responsibilities of VTED in the development process; MISTF-A development of survey questions; and validation of data to ensure continuity of operations.*

(U) Objectivity and Quality of MISTF-A Assessments At Risk

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) Recommendations, Management Comments, and Our Response

1. (U) We recommend that the Contracting Officer, Army Contracting Command-Rock Island, in consultation with the Commander, Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan, modify the contract performance work statement to:

- a. ~~(S//NF)~~ MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

**(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan
Comments**

~~(FOUO)~~ The Commander, MISTF-A, neither agreed nor disagreed with the recommendation. However, he stated that they provided a revised PWS to ACC-RI on September 16, 2013, to modify the contract. The revised PWS further clarifies the roles and responsibilities between the Government and contractor personnel and includes the SOPs referenced in Recommendations 3a-e as compliance documents. The commander further stated that the new contract solicitation includes our suggested recommendation, and will be modified to include the SOPs referenced in Recommendations 3a-e.

(U) Our Response

(U) The commander's comments were responsive. Although he did not agree or disagree, the planned and actions taken met the intent of the recommendation, thus, no further comments are required.

(U) Management Comments Required

(U) The Director, ACC-RI, did not comment on a draft of this report. We request that the director provide comments on the final report.

- b. ~~(S//NF)~~ MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

**(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan
Comments**

~~(FOUO)~~ The Commander, MISTF-A, neither agreed nor disagreed with the recommendation. However, he stated that measurable performance standards were incorporated in the current solicitation and the contract is expected to be awarded by December 2013. The commander further stated that, upon consultation with ACC-RI, changing the measurable performance standards for the existing contract will require a bilateral modification, which is not in the best interest of the Government given the remaining period given the remaining period of performance and successful past performance on the contract.

(U) Our Response

(U) The commander's comments were responsive. Although he did not agree or disagree, the actions taken meet the intent of the recommendation, thus, no further comments are required.

(U) Management Comments Required

(U) The Director, ACC-RI, did not comment on a draft of this report. We request that the director provide comments on the final report.

2. (U) We recommend that the Contracting Officer, Army Contracting Command–Rock Island, in consultation with the Commander, Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan, modify the quality assurance surveillance plan to include the methods for evaluating contractor performance on military information support operations tasks.

(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan Comments

~~(FOUO)~~ The Commander, MISTF-A, neither agreed nor disagreed with the recommendation. However, he stated that the modified QASP is included in the current solicitation and the contract is expected to be awarded by December 2013. The commander further stated that, upon consultation with ACC-RI, changing the QASP for the existing contract will require a bilateral modification, which is not in the best interest of the Government given the remaining period of performance and successful past performance on the contract.

(U) Our Response

(U) The commander's comments were responsive. Although he did not agree or disagree, the actions taken meet the intent of the recommendation, thus, no further comments are required.

(U) Management Comments Required

(U) The Director, ACC-RI, did not comment on a draft of this report. We request that the director provide comments on the final report.

3. (U) We recommend the Commander, Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan modify standard operating procedures to include additional details on:
 - a. (U) segregation of duties for the contractor;
 - b. (U) documentation of approval throughout the military information support operations product development process;
 - c. (U) roles and responsibilities of Validation, Test, and Evaluation Detachment personnel in the military information support operations product development process;
 - d. (U) development of survey questions by Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan personnel; and
 - e. (U) validation of data collected by the contractor.

**(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan
Comments**

~~(FOUO)~~ The Commander, MISTF-A, neither agreed nor disagreed with the recommendation. However, he stated that they revised the Product Development Detachment and the Validation, Test, and Evaluation Detachment SOPs to incorporate all recommendations.

(U) Our Response

(U) The commander's comments were responsive. Although he did not agree or disagree, the actions taken meet the intent of the recommendation, thus, no further comments are required.

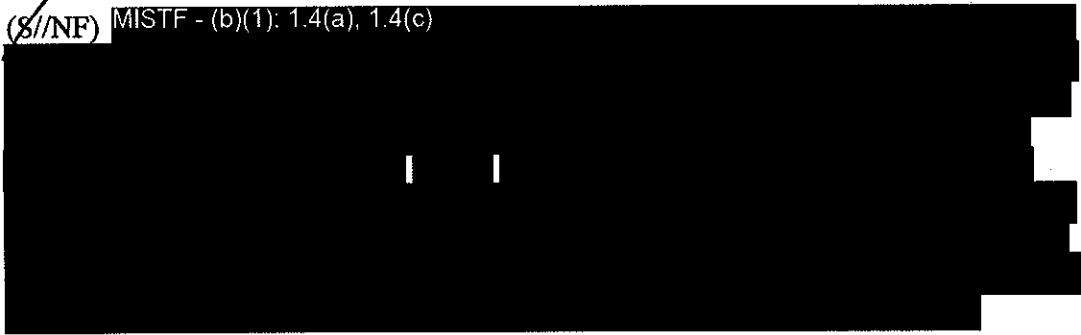
(U) Appendix A. Scope and Methodology

(U) We conducted this performance audit from September 2012 through July 2013 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence we obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

(U) To accomplish our audit objective we contacted, coordinated, or conducted interviews with officials from U.S. Central Command, USFOR-A Deputy Chief of Staff for Communication and for Intelligence Legal Aid, International Security Assistance Force Headquarters, International Security Assistance Forces Joint Command IO Division, and MISTF-A. We obtained and reviewed Joint Publication 3-13, "Information Operations," November 27, 2012; Joint Publication 5-0, "Joint Operation Planning," August 11, 2011; Joint Publication 3-13.2, "Military Information Support Operations," December 20, 2011; OMB Circular A-123, "Management's Responsibility for Internal Control," December 21, 2004; GAO's "Standards for Internal Controls in the Federal Government," November 1999; and DoD Directive 3600.01, "Information Operations," May 23, 2011.

(U) We identified MISTF-A procedures established for the development and assessment of MISO products and procedures developed to provide oversight of the contractor. We analyzed the sufficiency of these procedures by analyzing IO criteria, contract administration regulations, and management internal controls guidance. Specifically, we obtained and reviewed MISTF-A policies and procedures regarding the development and assessment of MISO products. We reviewed the "Standard Operating Procedures for the Validation, Testing and Evaluations Detachment, MISTF-A," December 19, 2012, and the "Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan Product Development Detachment Standard Operating Procedures," March 17, 2013.

(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)




¹ (S//NF) USCENCOM - (b)(1) 1.4(a)



(S//NF) USCENCOM - (b)(1) 1.4(a)



(S//NF) MISTF - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)



(U) We also reviewed the Federal Acquisition Regulations and the DoD Guidebook for the Acquisition of Services, July 20, 2011, for guidance on performance-based service agreements and conflicts of interest. We reviewed contract W52P1J-09-D-0053 performance work statement, dated August 16, 2010, to determine whether they mitigated conflicts of interest and followed FAR requirements for measurable performance standards. We reviewed the quality assurance surveillance plan, January 31, 2010, to determine whether it contained the methods of inspection for evaluating the completion of PWS tasks' measurable performance standards. We also contacted the contracting officer regarding potential conflicts of interest and measurable performance standards in the PWS.

(U) Upon completing initial fieldwork we coordinated with MISTF-A to address concerns we observed during our audit. To validate factual accuracy, we also provided a discussion draft to officials discussed in this report.

(U) Use of Computer-Processed Data

(U) We did not use computer-processed data to perform this audit.

(U) Use of Technical Assistance

(U) We received statistical assistance from Quantitative Methods Division, Department of Defense Inspector General (DoD IG). The Quantitative Methods Division assisted us with the methodology used to select the nonstatistical sample of MISO products.

(U) Prior Coverage

(U) During the last 5 years, DoD IG has issued five reports discussing Information Operations. Unrestricted DoD IG reports can be accessed at <http://www.dodig.mil/pubs/index.cfm>.

(U) DoD IG

(U) DoD IG Report No. D-2011-051, "DoD Needs Synchronized Communication Activities and an Integrated IO Capability in Afghanistan," March 21, 2011—this report is not publicly available.

(U) DoD IG Report No. D-2010-033, "Information Operations in Iraq," January 21, 2010—this report is not publicly available.

(U) DoD IG Report No. D-2009-115, "Summary of Information Operations in Iraq," September 29, 2009

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(U) DoD IG Report No. D-2009-091, "Information Operations Contracts in Iraq,"
July 31, 2009

(U) DoD IG Report No. D-2009-090, "Information Operations Career Force
Management," July 2, 2009

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(S//NF)

USCENTCOM - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

(U) MISTF-A Post-Dissemination Process

(S//NF)

USCENTCOM - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

[REDACTED]

¹ (U) A MISO product series is a collection of MISO products to satisfy USFOR-A desired objective(s).

² (S//NF) USCENTCOM - (b)(1): 1.4(a), 1.4(c)

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Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan Comments (U)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Military Information Support Task Force-Afghanistan
Camp Green, Afghanistan
APO AE 09320

AOPG-ESG-MISTF-A-CCO

17 September 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL

SUBJECT: Military Information Support Task Force -- Afghanistan (MISTF-A) Comments to Draft DoDIG Report D2012-D000JA-0223.000.

1. (U//FOUO) MISTF-A has reviewed DoDIG report D2012-D000JA-0223.000, "*Contract and the Controls Over Information Operations Assessments in Afghanistan Should be Strengthened*", and agree that the contractor is not assessing its own work, but that informal processes and contract instruments should be strengthened in order to eliminate any such perceptions.
2. (U//FOUO) IMPLEMENTATION OF DoDIG RECOMMENDATIONS:
 - a) **Recommendation 1a:** The existing Performance Work Statement (PWS) has been modified and was provided to Rock Island Contracting Command (RICC) on 16 Sep 13 to modify the contract. The revised PWS further clarifies roles and responsibilities between the government and contractor personnel. In addition, the SOPs referenced in recommendation 3 a-e, have been added to the PWS as compliance documents. The new contract solicitation includes the suggested recommendation from DoDIG, and will be modified to include the SOPs as compliance documents.
 - b) **Recommendation 1b:** The DoDIG recommendation to incorporate measureable performance standards has been incorporated in the current solicitation. This contract is expected to be awarded by Dec 2013. Upon consultation with RICC, changing the measureable performance standards for the existing contract will require a bilateral modification, which is not in the best interest of the Government given the remaining period of performance and successful past performance on the contract.
 - c) **Recommendation 2:** The DoDIG Quality Assurance and Surveillance Plan (QASP) recommendations are incorporated in the current solicitation. This contract is expected to be awarded by Dec 2013. Upon consultation with RICC, changing the QASP for the existing contract will require a bilateral modification, which is not in the best interest of the Government given the remaining period of performance and successful past performance on the contract.
 - d) **Recommendation 3a-e:** MISTF-A has revised the Product Development Detachment and the Validation, Testing, and Evaluation Detachment SOPs to incorporate all DoDIG recommendations.

3. (U//FOUO) The point of contact for further information is (b)(6)

(b)(6)

COL, PO
Commanding

(U) List of Classified Documents

(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan Product Development Detachment Standard Operating Procedures, updated January, 23, 2013:

SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: January 23, 2013

(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan Product Development Detachment Standard Operating Procedures, updated March 17, 2013:

SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: January 23, 2013

(U) Military Information Support Operations Task Force–Afghanistan Product Development Detachment Standard Operating Procedures, August 26, 2011:

SECRET//REL USA, ISAF, NATO

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: August 26, 2011

(U) Product Development Checklist: SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: Undated

(U) Military Information Support Task Force–Afghanistan Command Brief:

SECRET//ORCON/NOFORN

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: October 24, 2012

(U) Military Information Support Operations Task Force–Afghanistan White Paper:

SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: Undated

(U) Military Information Support Operations Task Force–Afghanistan Situation Report:

SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: February 2, 2012

(U) Information Operations Task Force Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan V2:

SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: January 31, 2010

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

(U) Validation, Testing, and Evaluation Detachment Overview of Assessment Process and Capabilities: SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: Undated

(U) Item 8 Dissemination Tracker FY12 Wrap-up: SECRET//NOFORN

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: November 3, 2012

(U) Military Information Support Task Force--Afghanistan Organizational Chart: SECRET//REL ACGU

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: Undated

(U) USFOR-A Executive Order 08-01 Modification 1 to Mission Statement: SECRET//USA NATO

Declassified Date: June 9, 2024

Generated Date: June 9, 2009

(U) Task Force-46/Task Forces 41 Relief in Place/Time of Arrival Plan: SECRET//NOFORN

Declassified Date: Undated

Generated Date: January 31, 2011

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Inspector General
Department of Defense



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