

May 2018
OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS
Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs

Inspection of Embassy Georgetown, Guyana

What OIG Found

- Embassy Georgetown's Ambassador advanced U.S. interests in Guyana, a country that has grown more important to the United States with the discovery of large oil reserves.
- The Ambassador and the Deputy Chief of Mission set a positive and professional tone for the embassy, consistent with the Department of State's leadership principles.
- The Ambassador was inattentive to the embassy's security program. This is inconsistent with the requirement that chiefs of mission advise, protect, and assist U.S. citizens and take direct and full responsibility for the security of the embassy and its personnel.
- Internal controls for some General Services and Facility Management operations did not comply with Department standards and procedures.
- The embassy did not have a consular warden system, and its preparedness for managing crisis situations was poor.
- The embassy's monitoring of defense articles and equipment supplied to the Government of Guyana did not comply with the Department's end-use monitoring requirements.
- The Department should vacate and sell the U.S. Government-owned warehouse.
- The embassy did not manage or document public diplomacy grants in accordance with Department standards.
- Information systems security operations and information technology contingency plan testing did not comply with Department requirements.



OIG HIGHLIGHTS

ISP-I-18-19

What OIG Inspected

OIG inspected the executive direction, program and policy implementation, management controls, and resource management operations of Embassy Georgetown.

What OIG Recommended

OIG made 29 recommendations to improve Embassy Georgetown operations, including 15 related to improving internal controls in the Management Section and 6 related to the Information Management Section.

In its comments on the draft report, the Department concurred with all 29 recommendations. OIG considers the recommendations resolved. The embassy's response to each recommendation, and OIG's reply, can be found in the Recommendations section of this report. The embassy's formal written response is reprinted in its entirety in Appendix B.