

OIG MONTHLY UPDATE



Photo: U.S. Embassy Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

OCTOBER 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE IG

To begin the new fiscal year, the OIG Monthly and our website have been updated to highlight the impact of OIG's work. In September, we launched our monthly recommendation reports. These reports will be posted on our website to make all of our open unclassified recommendations easily accessible. We will also showcase the total number of open and closed recommendations here in the OIG Monthly and provide a direct link to the recommendation reports. Another new website feature is our Report Highlights, which collects all our report summaries from FY 2015 to the present. These new features are part of our ongoing commitment to ensure that all stakeholders are fully apprised of our efforts.

RECOMMENDATION STATUS

Department and BBG as of September 29, 2017:

833

OPEN
RECOMMENDATIONS

31

CLOSED
RECOMMENDATIONS
DURING SEPTEMBER

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In September 2017, [a former Department contractor pled guilty](#) to the theft and sale of government property. OIG special agents developed evidence establishing that, from March 2016 through March 2017, the contractor sold and traded U.S. Government tactical equipment, including ballistic helmets and vests that were valued at over \$16,000. Sentencing is scheduled for January 2018.

In the May 2017 report, *Inspection of the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (ISP-I-17-22)*, OIG recommended that the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA) review over \$385.3 million in unliquidated obligations and de-obligate or reprogram funds that were no longer required. After review, NEA reported that it de-obligated approximately \$65 million which can be put to better use; it also reported that \$174 million were expended and that \$146 million are valid unliquidated obligations.

The Department recently implemented a recommendation from the September 2015 report, *Audit of the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation Administration and Oversight of Foreign Assistance Funds Related to the Global Threat Reduction Program (AUD-SI-15-41)*, which will benefit the Department by providing improved metrics for evaluating performance of its programs. In that report, OIG recommended that the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction (ISN/CTR) complete the integration of project data for each of its partner countries into the baseline model to better assess and report on the performance of ISN/CTR's programs relative to the President's 2010 National Security Strategy. ISN/CTR recently announced it has established this baseline model based on data gathered from a total of 29 partner entities that will be used to assess program performance.

[View Latest Monthly Recommendation Reports](#)

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SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

As a result of improvements the Department made in response to 2014 recommendations (*Contract File Management Deficiencies, MA-A-0002*, March 20, 2014), OIG identified improvements in Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) files. Specifically, during the *Audit of Invoices Submitted by Torres Advanced Enterprise Solutions, LLC, for Select Local Guard Force Contracts (AUD-CGI-17-63)*, OIG found that the majority of COR files maintained after 2015 at the posts audited contained the required contract administration documents, including copies of the COR delegation of authority letter, the contract, all contract modifications, invoices, all pertinent correspondence, and other information needed to document contractor performance or administrative actions taken.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE (CONT.)

In the May 2017 report, *Inspection of Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel* ([ISP-I-17-20](#)), OIG found not all mission drivers received required driver training or had required medical clearances before operating official Government vehicles. OIG also found that the embassy did not provide proper oversight of driver performance and did not enforce appropriate disciplinary procedures. In September, Embassy Tel Aviv confirmed that all chauffeurs and incidental drivers had completed driver training and had required medical clearances. The embassy further reported it had implemented a driver oversight and disciplinary program. The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations, Office of Safety, Health, and Environmental Management reported that because of Embassy Tel Aviv's efforts in implementing OIG recommendations, the mission had reduced motor vehicle mishaps in 2017 by nearly 50 percent from the previous fiscal year.

In the May 2017 report, *Inspection of Embassy Freetown, Sierra Leone* ([ISP-I-17-16](#)), OIG recommended that the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) develop and implement an action plan to identify, prioritize, and resolve numerous maintenance deficiencies at the chancery. Because of the serious and extensive nature of the deficiencies reported by OIG, OBO reported that Embassy Freetown was designated as one of two prototype Priority Needs Posts (PNP) and will serve as the template for remediation efforts for other PNP-designated posts worldwide in the future. OBO stated the PNP designation means it will undertake major planning efforts, provide on-site management assistance and training, and take action to complete major repairs and preventive maintenance.

NEW WORK STARTED

- Inspection of Embassy Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Inspection of Embassy Djibouti, Djibouti
- Inspection of U.S. Mission to the African Union, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Inspection of Embassy Guatemala City, Guatemala
- Inspection of Embassy Managua, Nicaragua
- Inspection of Embassy Georgetown, Guyana
- Inspection of Embassy San Jose, Costa Rica
- Inspection of Embassy Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Inspection of Yemen Affairs Unit, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Inspection of the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs
- Inspection of Bureau of Information Resource Management's Office of Governance, Resource, and Performance Management
- Audit of the Department of State Purchase Card Program
- Audit of Excess Funds in the Department of State's Working Capital Fund

REPORTS ISSUED

- *Audit of the Bureau of Consular Affairs Fee-Setting Methodology for Selected Consular Services* ([AUD-FM-17-53](#))
- *Audit of the Department of State's Efforts to Detect and Address the Use of Unapproved Portable Devices* ([AUD-IT-17-61](#))
- *Inspection of Embassy Valletta, Malta* ([ISP-I-17-43](#))
- *Audit of Invoices Submitted by Torres Advanced Enterprise Solutions, LLC, for Select Local Guard Force Contracts* ([AUD-CGI-17-63](#))
- *Inspection of Embassy Podgorica, Montenegro* ([ISP-17-41](#))
- *Audit of the Department of State's Information Technology Configuration Control Board* ([AUD-IT-17-64](#))
- *FY 2018 Comprehensive Oversight Plan for Overseas Contingency Operations* ([COP-OCO-FY2018](#))
- *Management Assistance Report: Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund Invoice Submission Process* ([INV-17-02](#))
- *Classified Inspection of Embassy Nicosia, Cyprus** ([ISP-S-17-42](#))
- *Classified Inspection of Embassy Quito and Consulate General Guayaquil, Ecuador** ([ISP-S-17-35](#))
- *Compliance Follow-up Audit of Department of State Access Controls for Major Applications** ([AUD-IT-17-62](#))
- *Management Assistance Report: Safety Infractions in Embassy Amman Motor Pool Area Require Immediate Attention** ([AUD-MERO-17-59](#))
- *Classified Inspection of Embassy Valletta, Malta** ([ISP-S-17-43](#))
- *Audit of the Information Security Program for Sensitive Compartmented Information Systems at the Department of State** ([AUD-IT-17-60](#))

*Report is classified or sensitive.



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