



INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
400 ARMY NAVY DRIVE
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202-4704

SEP 11 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND
DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR
ACQUISITION AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBJECT: Review of Army Response to Sodium Dichromate Exposure at Qarmat Ali Iraq
(Project D2009-DIPOE3-0306.000)

The Inspector General of the Department of Defense will review the U.S. Army's actions regarding the exposure of personnel to sodium dichromate at the Qarmat Ali water injection facility in 2003. We are conducting this review in response to a request from seven members of the United States Senate questioning efforts of the U.S. Army and contractors to protect the safety and health of Government and contractor personnel at this site.

We will start the project in September 2009. The team will contact the U.S. Army, U.S. Central Command, the Defense Contract Management Agency, and other DoD organizations as required. We will also coordinate with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Please inform the appropriate entities within your agency or command of this assessment and advise them that the team will request meetings and access to records. All members of the team will have appropriate security clearances.

To facilitate the coordination process for this assessment, please provide your points of contact by October 1, 2009, to Lt Col Lee Nelson at (703) 604-9192, DSN 664-9192, lee.nelson@dodig.mil.

Charles W. Beardall
Deputy Inspector General
for Policy and Oversight

cc:
Inspector General of the Army
Naval Inspector General
Inspector General of the Air Force
Inspector General of the Marine Corps
Office of the Inspector General of the Joint Staff
Inspector General of the United States Central Command
Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs