



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM:

Gregory H. Friedman
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Inspector General

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION: Inspection Report on "Protective Force Performance Test Improprieties"

BACKGROUND

On June 26, 2003, a protective force performance test was conducted at the Department of Energy's Y-12 National Security Complex, which is a component of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). The purpose of the test was to obtain realistic data for developing the Y-12 Site Safeguards and Security Plan. The mission at the site includes a number of sensitive activities, such as enriched uranium material warehousing, and weapon dismantlement and storage. These activities necessitate that the site have a protective force capable of responding to potential security incidents such as a terrorist attack.

Computer simulations conducted prior to the June 2003 performance test had predicted that the responder (defending) protective forces would decisively lose two of the four scenarios that comprised the test. When the responder protective forces won all four of the scenarios, the Y-12 Site Manager became concerned that the test may have been compromised. The Manager initiated an inquiry, which identified issues regarding responder protective force personnel having had access to the computer simulations of the four scenarios prior to the performance test. Subsequently, at the Y-12 Site Manager's request, the Office of Inspector General initiated a review to address these issues.

Based on information developed during the course of the review, the scope of the inspection was expanded to examine whether there had been a pattern over time of site security personnel compromising protective force performance tests.

RESULTS OF INSPECTION

Our inspection confirmed that the results of the June 26, 2003, performance test may have been compromised. We found that shortly before the test, two protective force personnel were inappropriately permitted to view the computer simulations of the four scenarios. This action compromised controlled (test-sensitive) information. As a consequence, the test results were, in our judgment, tainted and unreliable.

During the Office of Inspector General review, several current and former protective force personnel provided us with compelling testimony that there has been a pattern of actions by site



security personnel going back to the mid-1980's that may have negatively affected the reliability of site performance testing. We were told, for example, that controlled information had been shared with protective force personnel prior to their participation in a given performance test. This included such important data as:

The specific building and wall to be attacked by the test adversary;

The specific target of the test adversary; and

Whether or not a diversionary tactic would be employed by the test adversary

Two other protective force contractor employees who were identified as having some level of involvement in these actions denied any such involvement. However, it was clear that if controlled information was, in fact, disclosed prior to the performance tests, the reliability of the information used to evaluate the efficacy of the protective force at the Oak Ridge complex was in question.

The report includes several recommendations to Department management designed to enhance the integrity of future performance tests.

MANAGEMENT REACTION

NNSA concurred with our findings and recommendations and provided a series of corrective actions that either had been initiated or were planned as a result of direction from the NNSA Administrator and the Y-12 Site Office Manager. NNSA's comments, which are provided in their entirety in an appendix to this report, also represent the position of the Oak Ridge Operations Office. The Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance, whose comments are also appended to this report, concurred with our recommendation to that Office.

We found management's comments to be responsive to our recommendations.

Attachment

cc Deputy Secretary
Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration
Under Secretary for Energy, Science and Environment
Director, Office of Security and Safety Performance Assurance
Director, Office of Science
Manager, Y-12 Site Office
Manager, Oak Ridge Operations Office
Director, Policy and Internal Controls Management