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*Remarks by Defense Criminal Investigative Service Director Charles W. Beardall
at the Department of Justice press conference announcing the formation of the
National Counter-Proliferation Initiative, October 11, 2007*

Good morning, I'm Chuck Beardall, the Director of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service – DCIS. DCIS is the law enforcement arm of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense. We comprise a modest force of 325 special agents and 50 support employees.

While we pursue numerous types of high-end investigations, our top priorities for Fiscal Year 2008 include: Major Procurement Fraud with a strong concentration on substandard or defective products that threaten the safety of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines and make them less effective Warfighters, protection of the Global Information Grid, Corruption, the Global War on Terror, and the Illegal Transfer of Technology and Munitions List items.

It is of course the latter that brings me here today, because as you can well imagine, the Department of Justice Export Enforcement Initiative is of incalculable significance to the Department of Defense and to DCIS. There is no greater concern to us than the safety and effectiveness of our troops. In fact, for many years the DCIS motto has been “Protecting America’s Warfighters,” a pledge my agents and support staff live every day.

We have looked out for our troops in many ways, from our constant dedication to preventing fraud to investigating terrorist threats to the Department of Defense to protecting DoD from cyber attacks. Our investigations take us around the world including concentrated investigative support to our commands in Southwest Asia.

Despite our size, DCIS has been well-invested in stopping the illicit trans-national trafficking in critical military technology, U.S. Munitions List Items, and WMD components. In addition to menacing the security of the United States and its allies, this trafficking directly endangers our service men and women deployed worldwide.

With our law enforcement partners, we have helped interdict the transfer of such items as F-14 and F-16 jet engines and parts, night vision goggles, body armor, missiles, and state-of-the-art communications equipment.

DCIS realizes that the most effective way to combat export control violations is through combined investigative activities, and that insular thinking in today’s global threat environment invites disaster. Therefore, we are very pleased to be participating in this initiative and its implementing task force.

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