



Department of Defense
Office of the Inspector General

Information Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2006

Military Impersonator Receives Prison Sentence

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on September 18, 2006, Lisa Jane Phillips was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Terrance W. Boyce for her involvement in impersonating a military officer.

From August 2002 through January 2005, Phillips represented herself to school officials at Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, as a captain in the U.S. Air Force. She requested financial assistance based upon her military service in various combat situations. Phillips was given scholarships and free tuition by Meredith College. Phillips often wore military flight suits and a military uniform displaying various military medals.

Phillips was sentenced to one year and one day in prison followed by three years of supervised release. As part of a plea agreement, Phillips paid restitution to Meredith College in the amount of \$42,000. In September 2005, she pled guilty to four counts of a twelve count indictment. Specific violations included: 18 USC 1912, Impersonation of a Military Officer; 18 USC 1001, False Statement; 18 USC 1343 Wire Fraud; 18 USC 704, Unauthorized Use of Military Medals.

This investigation was worked jointly by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of North Carolina. DCIS is the investigative arm of the DoD Office of Inspector General.

For further information, contact Robert Harris, Special Agent in Charge, Southeast Field Office at (770) 916-9920.

To report suspected fraud, waste, and abuse within DoD programs, contact the Defense Hotline toll-free at (800) 424-9098, e-mail: hotline@dodig.mil/, or visit them on the World Wide Web at <http://www.dodig.mil/hotline/>.