

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on June 22, 2001, Romualdo N. Garcia, Republic of the Philippines, was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, to 12 months incarceration followed by 3 years supervised release. Garcia was also ordered to pay \$240,946 in restitution and a \$50 special assessment fee.

On March 11, 1999, a Federal grand jury indicted Garcia on three counts of mail fraud and six counts of submitting false claims to TRICARE. On April 25, 2001, Garcia pled guilty to one count of submitting false claims to TRICARE.

The sentence was the result of an investigation that determined Garcia, a retired U.S. Navy veteran residing in the Republic of the Philippines, submitted numerous false claims to the TRICARE health care program for services allegedly rendered to himself and his dependents. Wisconsin Physicians Service, Madison, WI, a fiscal intermediary for the TRICARE program, processed the false claims on behalf of TRICARE. The payments for the fraudulent claims totaled \$240,946.