

## **DynCorp Faulted For Iraq Spending**

### **Inspector Cites Millions in Discrepancies; Firm Defends Actions**

**By Tod Robberson**

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A federal inspector looking into the performance of DynCorp International said Tuesday that he had identified tens of millions of dollars worth of accounting discrepancies, missing weapons and unauthorized billings by the Dallas-area employer.

Stuart W. Bowen Jr., the special inspector general for Iraq reconstruction, criticized both the State Department and Virginia-based DynCorp, which has its main logistical headquarters in Irving, for what he called lax accounting and monitoring procedures related to a camp-construction contract for police trainers in Iraq.

The contract was for 1,048 trailers and an Olympic-size swimming pool to be built for police trainers in Baghdad and elsewhere in Iraq.

Also Tuesday, a Democratic congresswoman called for legislation to make DynCorp and other security contractors more accountable. Rep. Janice Schakowsky, a chief deputy whip from Illinois, said she was introducing the "Iraq and Afghanistan Contractor Sunshine Act" because of her "concerns about this lack of accountability, the number of contractors [involved in the war effort] and the sensitive duties that they are performing."

Mr. Bowen's report cited \$43.8 million in State Department expenditures for a camp that was never used by police trainers. It said DynCorp had billed the department for \$4.2 million in unauthorized work related to the contract.

It added that the State Department "may have spent another \$36.4 million for weapons and equipment, including armored vehicles, body armor and communications equipment that cannot be accounted for."

Gregory Lagana, a spokesman for DynCorp, said his company had not been contacted about the inspector's findings. "But we believe that any investigation or audit will show that the company acted responsibly and with concern for the expenditure of public funds."

He pledged full cooperation with any investigation.

A *Dallas Morning News* series in December, which was cited in Ms. Schakowsky's announcement Tuesday, identified potentially life-threatening lapses involving DynCorp's management of weapons, armored vehicles and body armor in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Bowen's office also issued a 579-page quarterly audit that describes other examples of waste and fraud by contractors in Iraq, The Associated Press reported. The troubled stabilization and reconstruction effort, which has made private contractors the second-largest force in Iraq behind the U.S. military, has prompted members of Congress to seek a re-examination of the U.S. mission there.

Mr. Bowen's report said that the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement had initiated its own investigation of DynCorp's billing practices in late 2005 and

quoted an internal department report as saying, "INL cannot determine if the bureau received what it paid for."