

BG KRISTIN K. FRENCH

DIG 12-00067



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
1700 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-1700

DEC 21 2012

US ARMY INSPECTOR GENERAL AGENCY
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
(Case 12-00067)

NAMES/POSITIONS: BG Kristin K. French, Commanding General (CG),
3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC), Joint Sustainment
Command-Afghanistan (JSC-A) (b)(7)(C)

ALLEGATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. The allegation that BG French misused government personnel for personal services was substantiated. (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C) The evidence indicated that BG French would bring her laundry to her office, where Soldiers took it to the laundry facility and picked it up for her. Although BG French testified that she thought this was done by the mail clerk for everyone in the headquarters, the evidence indicated it was not. Taking care of laundry was an individual responsibility. Further, (b)(7)(C) advised BG French several times that she should take care of her own laundry. (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

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(b)(7)(C)

BACKGROUND: Between 6 May 2012 and 7 August 2012, DAIG received notification of allegations against BG French and (b)(7)(C) from six anonymous complainants and one named complainant. (b)(7)(C) stated he made at least one of the anonymous complaints. The complaints alleged that:

(b)(7)(C)

c. BG French and (b)(7)(C) improperly used Soldiers to (b)(6) & (b)(7)(C) (b)(6) & (b) and drop off/pick up their laundry.

(b)(7)(C)

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ALLEGATION #1: BG French and (b)(7)(C) misused government personnel for personal services.

STANDARDS:

1. Department of Defense (DOD) 5500.07-R, Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), dated 30 August 1993 (through Change 7, dated 17 November 2011), states in paragraph 3-303(b), that because of the potential for significant cost to the Federal Government, and the potential for abuse, DOD employees, such as secretaries, clerks, and military aides, could not be used to support the unofficial activities of another DOD employee or for any other non-Federal purposes.

2. Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, states in paragraph 2635.705(b), that an employee will not encourage, direct, coerce, or request a subordinate to use official time to perform activities other than those required in the performance of official duties or authorized in accordance with law or regulation.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

1. An anonymous complainant alleged that BG French and (b)(7)(C) used Soldiers (b)(6) & (b)(7)(C) and drop off/pick up laundry at the KAF laundry site.

2. Witness testimony reflected:

a. SFC (b)(7) picked up laundry for BG French and (b)(7)(C) at BG French's direction when they would be late getting back from a battlefield circulation mission.

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

b. (b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

c. COL (b)(7)(C) 3rd ESC, testified he was not aware of anyone using Soldiers (b)(6) & (b)(7)(C) or to pick up or drop off laundry.

d. (b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

It was common practice for someone within the same office to take another person's laundry to the KAF laundry facility.

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e. SPO (b)(7)(C) 3rd ESC, testified that he never took the laundry for BG French or any other command group member to the contracted laundry facility. He would take his laundry, and his two roommates' laundry, he never had more than three laundry tickets in his possession.

f. CSM (b)(7)(C) testified:

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(2) The operating hours for the laundry facility were 0600-2100, and it was a 5-10 minute walk from the 3rd ESC area. BG French and her aide brought their laundry to the office, and Soldiers would ensure BG French's and her aide's laundry got dropped off and picked up from the laundry facility. He never directed any Soldier to provide that service for him, nor had any Soldier done so. He advised BG French to take care of her own laundry several times. The operating hours did not conflict with her work schedule. He voluntarily picked up the laundry one time for BG French and the aide as a courtesy.

g. BG French testified:

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(2) The mail clerk picked up and dropped off laundry at the HHC, 3rd ESC, supply room. She never dropped off her laundry at the supply room. The laundry was consolidated at the supply room and turned into the laundry facility by Supply Room personnel. She brought her laundry to work, but the laundry facility was not open when she arrived for work or when she completed her duty. Soldiers in her office would take

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care of her laundry, as well as others, when they were going to the laundry facility. She never directed or asked any Soldier to do so. She thanked the Soldier(s) for taking care of her laundry. SPC (b)(7)(C) volunteered to conduct this service for many Soldiers. She believed SFC (b)(7)(C) had informed her of the service provided by SPC (b)(7)(C). There were many people who took advantage of the same service.

[IO NOTE: The IO interviewed SPC (b)(7)(C) and he denied taking BG French's laundry to the laundry facility. It was apparent that BG French was mistaken about which Soldier took the laundry.]

(3) She had picked up and/or dropped off laundry a couple times for other Soldiers as well. She worked extremely long hours and conducted numerous trips in and around Afghanistan. Her Soldiers took care of each other, and she did not have a perception that someone thought she was being singled out regarding laundry services.

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) & (b)(7)(C)

5. The evidence established that BG French's subordinates picked up and returned her laundry. BG French was aware that Soldiers in her office took care of her laundry. BG French indicated that she was merely including her laundry with a collection from other Soldiers for transport from her headquarters to the laundry facility. The testimony of CSM (b)(7)(C) and SPC (b)(7)(C) indicated that her laundry was not part of some sort of group pick-up for Soldier laundry in the headquarters, but rather Soldiers were making a

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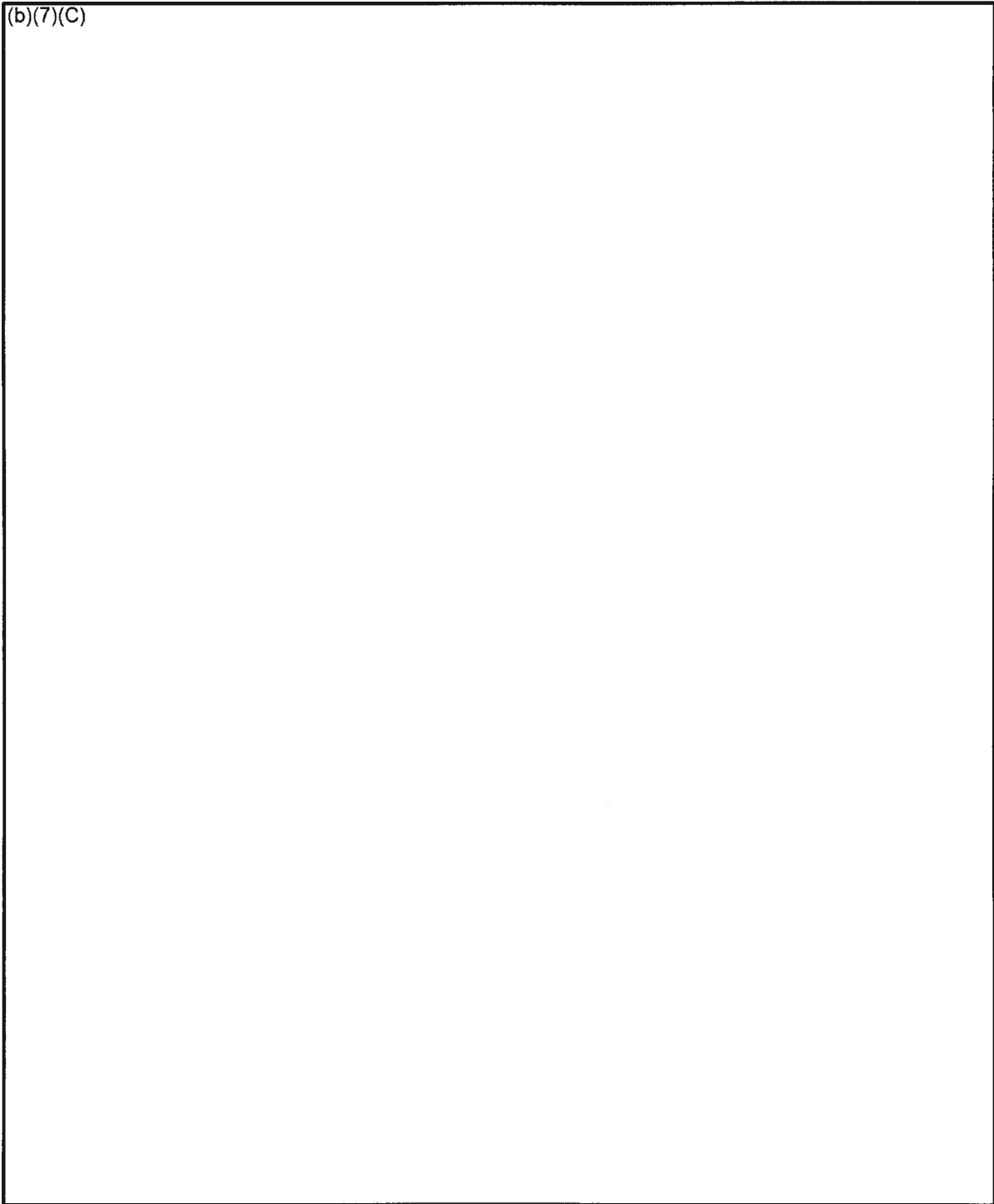
non-incidentaI effort to take care of BG French's laundry. BG French's use of Soldiers to perform this laundry transport service was not authorized and constituted misuse of government personnel to perform personal services for her.

(b)(7)(C)

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(b)(7)(C)



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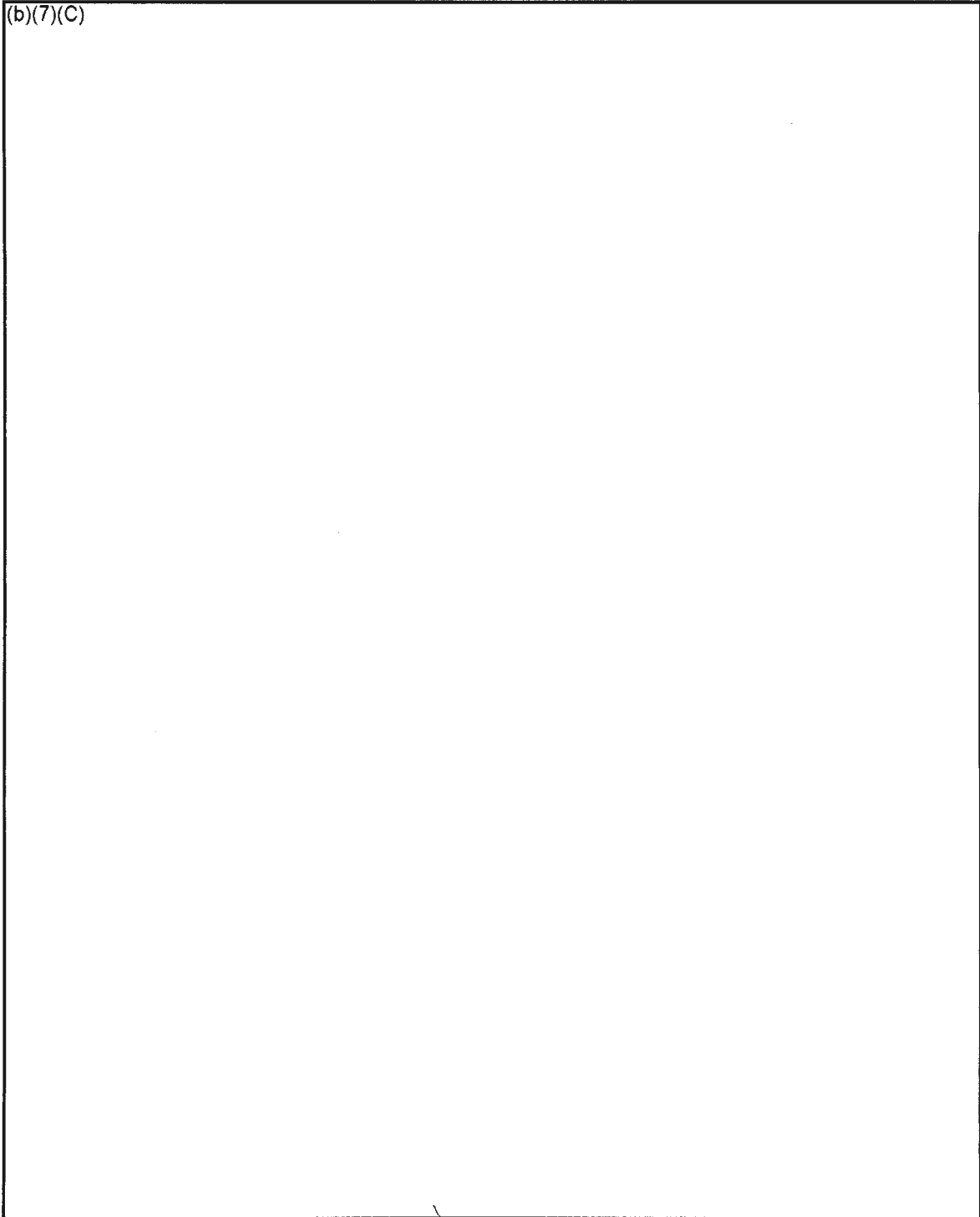
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(b)(7)(C)

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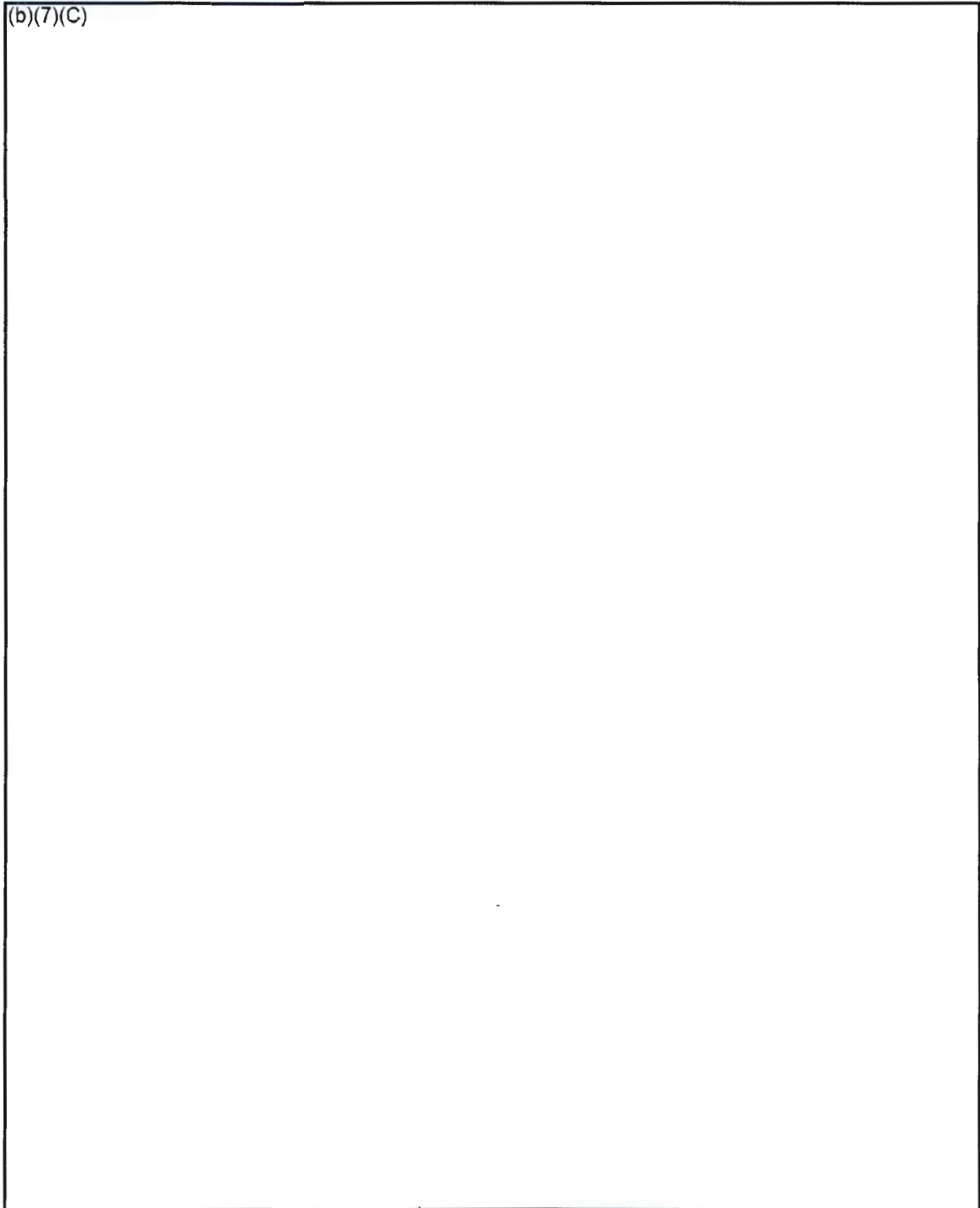
(b)(7)(C)



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(b)(7)(C)



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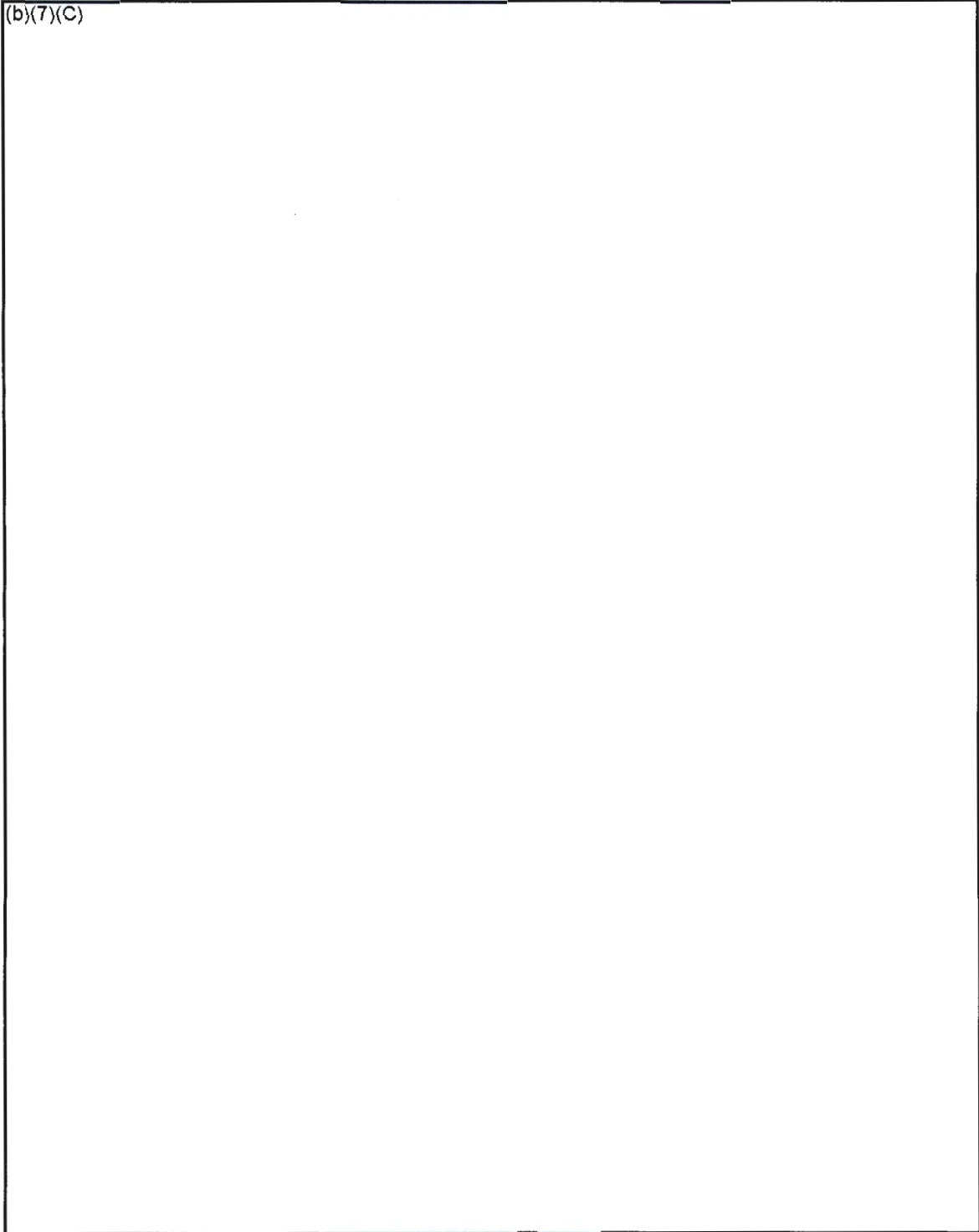
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(b)(7)(C)

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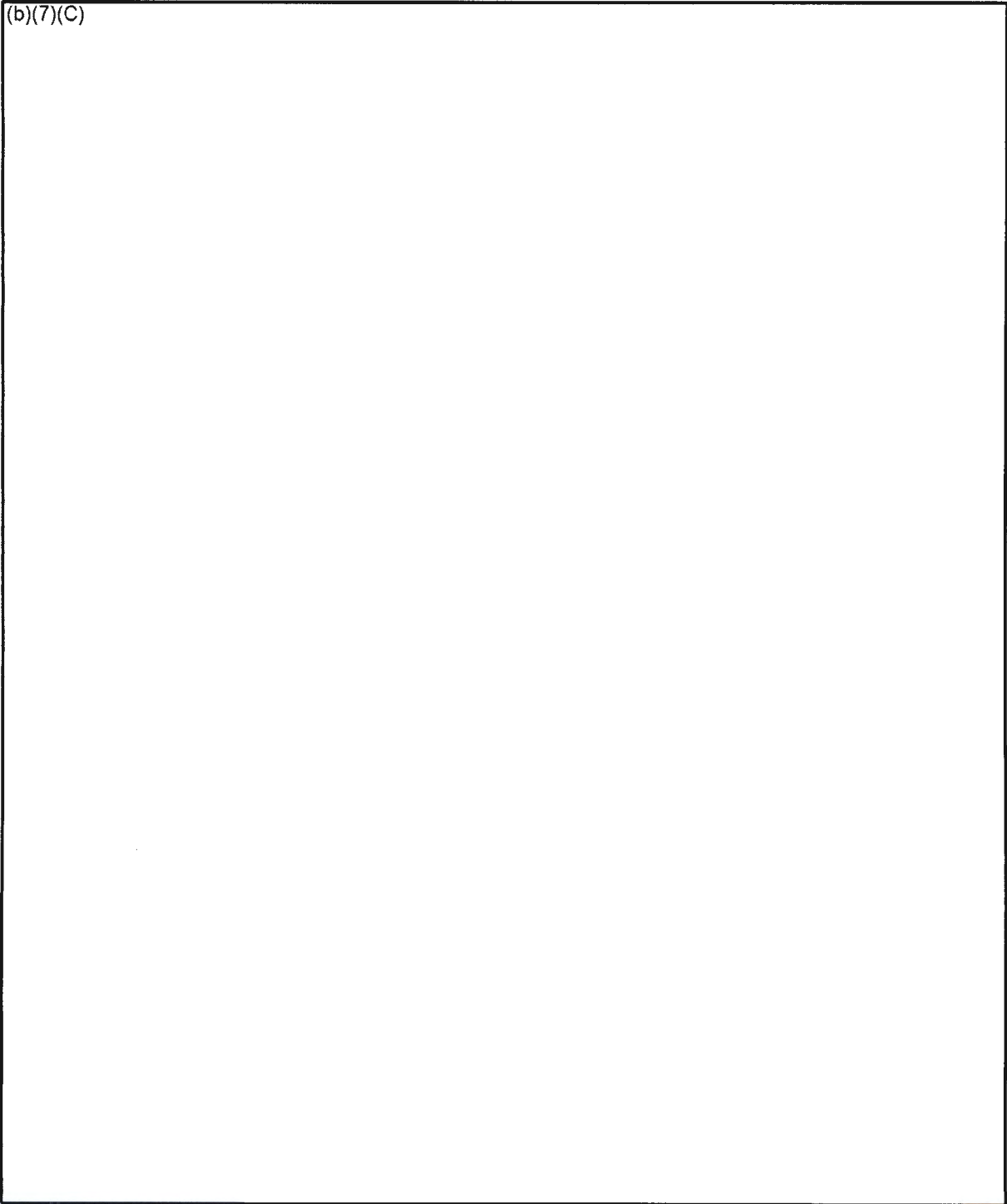
(b)(7)(C)



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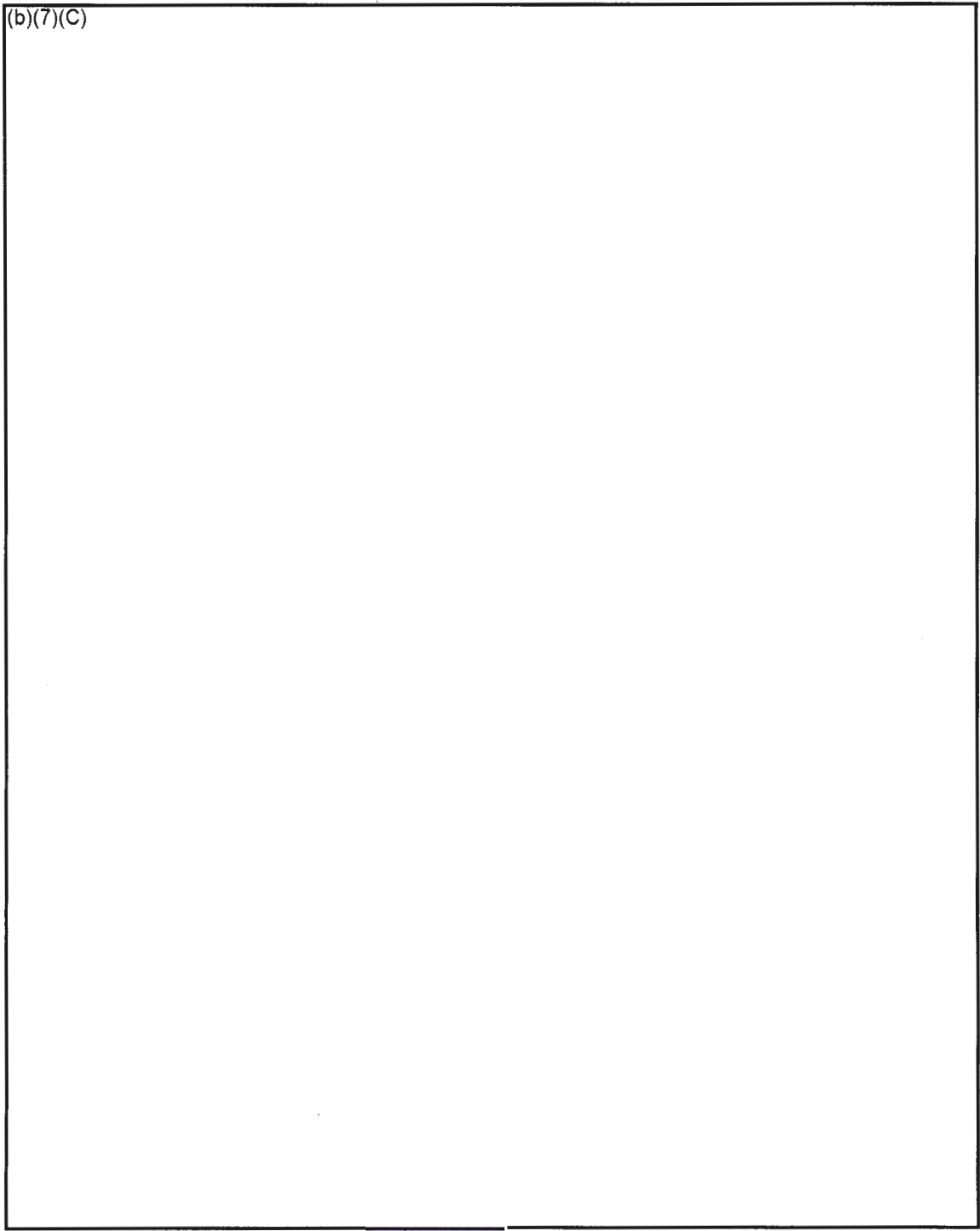
(b)(7)(C)



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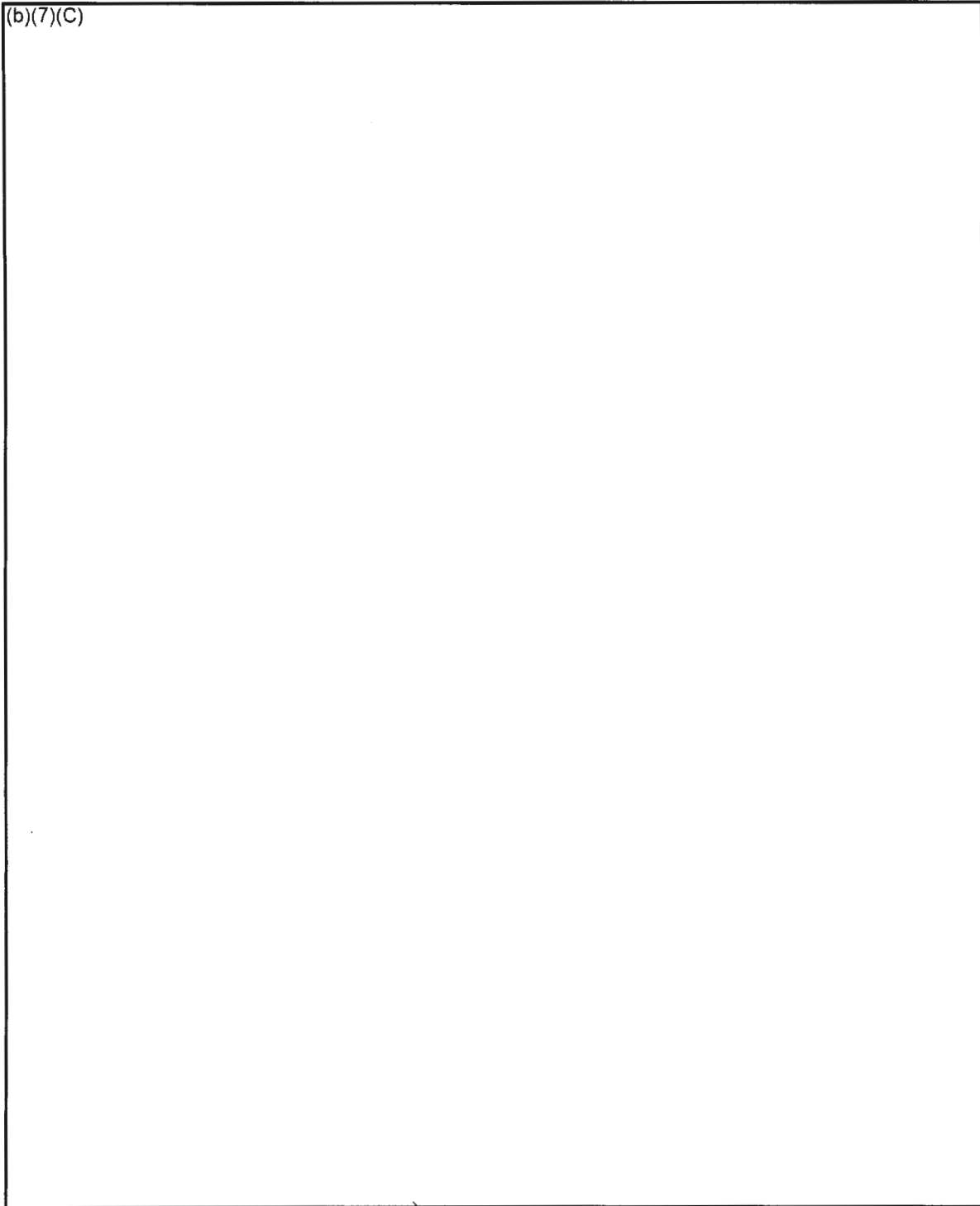
(b)(7)(C)



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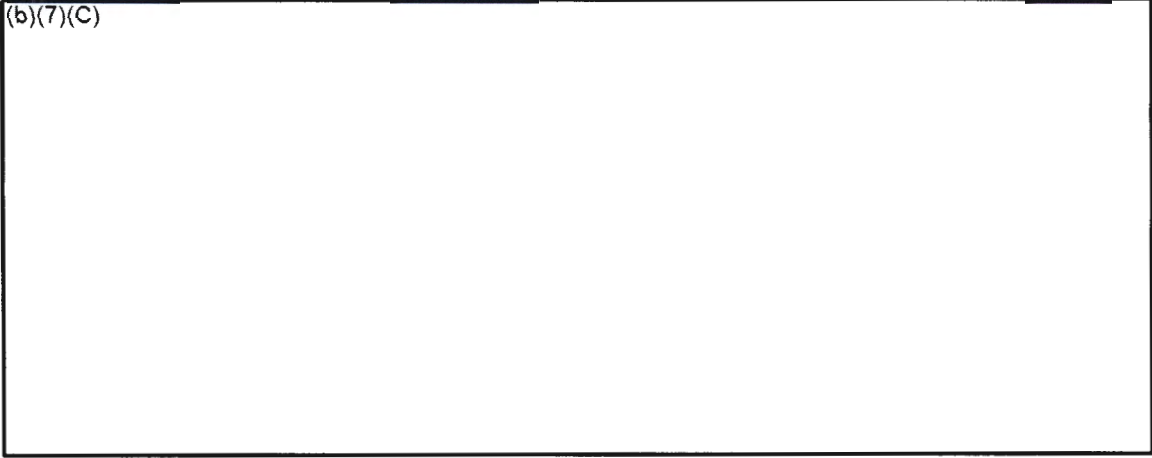
(b)(7)(C)



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(b)(7)(C)



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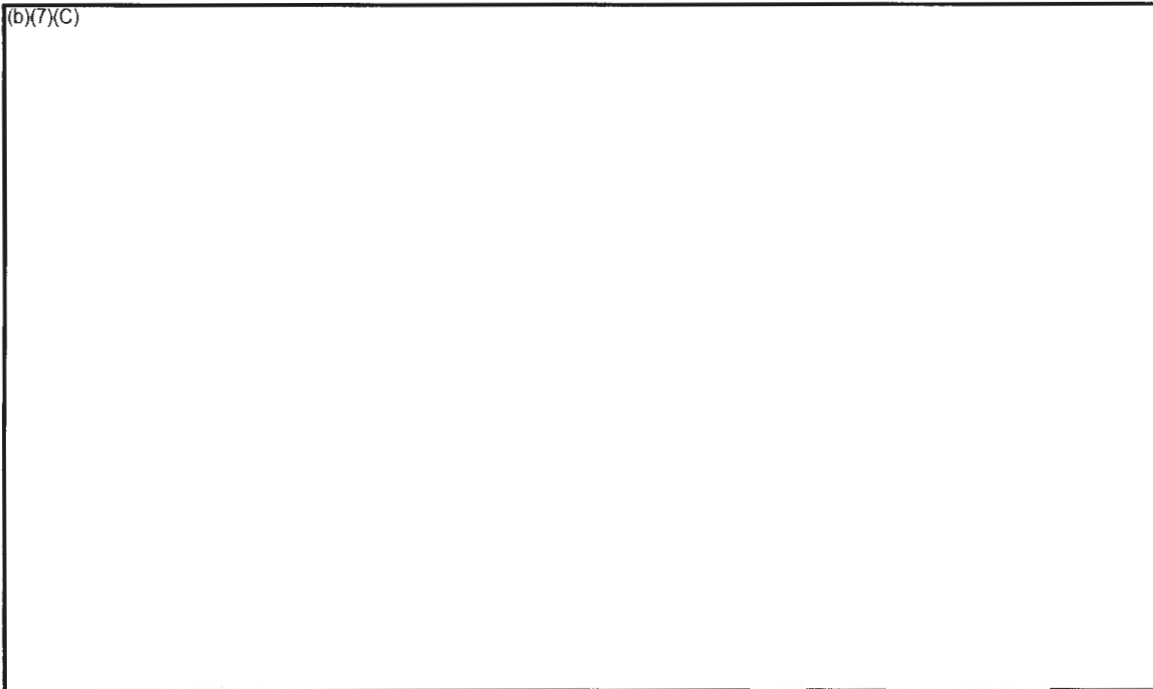
RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Inform BG French of the intent to substantiate the allegation that she misused government personnel for personal services.

a. Provide BG French 30 days from the approval date of this report to provide a response.

b. Record the allegation that BG French misused government personnel for personal services in the IN database as open.

(b)(7)(C)



8. File this report as DIG 12-00067.

(b)(7)(C)



LTC, IG
Investigator

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SAIG-IN (DIG 12-00067)

APPROVED:



PETER M. VANGJEL
Lieutenant General, USA
The Inspector General

COORDINATION:

IN, Legal
Chief, PI Br
IG, Legal
Chief, IN Div

Initials:
Initials:
Initials:
Initials:

(b)(7)(C)

Date: 11/14/12
Date: 5 Dec 12
Date: 5 Dec 12
Date: 18 Dec 12

Encls

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LIST OF EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT

ITEM

A Complaint/Allegation: DOD-IG received six anonymous complaints and one named complaint:

- A-1: Complaint, 6 May 2012
- A-2: Complaint, 16 May 2012
- A-3: Complaint, 16 May 2012
- A-4: Complaint, 8 June 2012
- A-5: Complaint, 15 July 2012
- A-6: Complaint, 16 July 2012
- A-7: Complaint, 7 August 2012

B Standards:

- B-1: DOD 5500.07-R, JER, dated 30 August 1993 (through Change 7, dated 17 November 2011)
- B-2: Title 5, CFR, Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, dated 1 January 2011, paragraph 2635.705 (b)
- B-3: Title 5, CFR, Basic Obligation of Public Service, dated 1 January 2011, paragraph 2635.101(b)(7) and paragraph 2635.101(b)(9)
- B-4: (b)(7)(C) [Redacted]
- B-5: [Redacted]
- B-6: AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, dated 18 March 2008, with Rapid Action Review, dated 4 August 2011
- B-7: (b)(7)(C) [Redacted]
- B-8: AR 600-100, Army Leadership, dated 8 March 2007
- B-9: (b)(7)(C) [Redacted]

C Document Summary:

- C-1: (b)(7)(C) [Redacted]
- C-2: [Redacted]
- C-3: [Redacted]
- C-4: [Redacted]
- C-5: [Redacted]
- C-6: [Redacted]
- C-7: [Redacted]
- C-8: [Redacted]

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C-9: (b)(7)(C)
C-10:
C-11:

C-12:
C-13:
C-14:

D Testimony Summary:

D-1: COL (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-2: COL	FOIA: No
D-3: CPT	FOIA: No
D-4: SFC	FOIA: No
D-5: SPC	FOIA: Yes
D-6: MAJ	FOIA: No
D-7: CPT	FOIA: No
D-8: LTC	FOIA: No
D-9: SSG	FOIA: No
D-10: LTC (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: Yes
D-11: COL (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-12: LTC (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-13: LTC (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-14: LTC (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-15: SGM (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: No
D-16: BG French (w/ DA 3881)	FOIA: No
D-17: CSM (b)(7)(C)	FOIA: Yes
D-18: SFC	FOIA: No
D-19: SGM	FOIA: Yes
D-20: SPC	FOIA: Yes
D-21: SGT	FOIA: Yes
D-22: SFC	FOIA: Yes
D-23: SPC	FOIA: No

E Notifications: BG French, MG Stein, LTG Brooks



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**US ARMY INSPECTOR GENERAL AGENCY
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
(Case 12-00067)**

Update
MAY -3 2013

NAME/POSITION: BG Kristin K. French, Commanding General, 3rd Sustainment Command

ALLEGATION AND CONCLUSION: The allegation that BG French misused government personnel for personal services was substantiated. The evidence indicated that while deployed to Afghanistan in 2012, BG French would bring her laundry to her office where Soldiers would take it to the laundry facility and pick it up for her. The evidence indicated this was not done for everyone in the headquarters. The taking care of laundry for BG French was considered using Soldiers to perform a personal service. BG French used Soldiers to perform this personal service.

BACKGROUND:

1. Between 6 May 2012 and 7 August 2012, DAIG received allegations against BG French.
2. The Inspector General approved the initial investigation findings on 19 December 2012 and provided BG French the opportunity to respond to the substantiated finding.

EVIDENCE: On 4 April 2013, BG French submitted her response to the allegation. She stated, "During my unit's deployment, I never intended to receive any preferential treatment from the Soldiers under my command. After reflection and education, I realize I should not have allowed other Soldiers to drop-off and pick-up my laundry in my absence from the Kandahar Airfield, where I resided. I have always done the utmost to adhere to the high standards expected of me and my profession. I have always strived to set the example. I appreciate the opportunity to respond again. This was a hard lesson to learn. I will not make the same mistake again." (Exhibit A)

ANALYSIS: BG French submitted her response within the 30 days that was given. She admitted to the impropriety of using Soldiers in providing a personal service for her.

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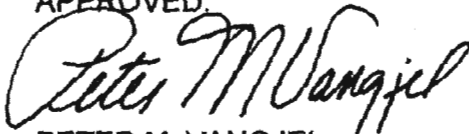
RECOMMENDATION:

1. Record the allegation that BG French misused government personnel for personal services in the IN database as substantiated.
2. File this report with DIG 12-00067.
3. Refer this report to the Office of The Judge Advocate General for appropriate action on the substantiated allegation.

(b)(7)(C)

LTC, IG
Investigator

APPROVED:



PETER M. VANGJEL
Lieutenant General, USA
The Inspector General

COORDINATION:

IN, Legal
Chief, PI Br
IG, Legal
Chief, IN Div
OGC

Initials
Initials
Initials
Initials
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(b)(7)(C)

Date: 26/30409
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Date: 18 APR 13
Date: 24 APR 13

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