June 8, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Grassley:

This is in response to your May 26, 2022, letter urging the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General (DoD OIG) to prioritize oversight of relief funds that the DoD will use in support of Ukraine. As the Acting DoD Inspector General (IG), I want to assure you that my staff and I are fully engaged in ensuring comprehensive oversight of funds appropriated for assistance to the government of Ukraine.

To this end, I am leading a collaborative approach similar to the construct I employ to fulfill my responsibilities as the Lead IG for Operations Inherent Resolve, Freedom’s Sentinel, and Enduring Sentinel. We have partnered with the OIGs of the Department of State (DOS) and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to form a joint working group on Ukraine oversight. This working group will ensure interagency communication and visibility of each agency’s ongoing work, and will identify opportunities for coordination between project teams. We will expand this working group, as appropriate, to include other OIGs whose agencies have equities in Ukraine. Working together, we can ensure comprehensive, coordinated oversight of funding provided to Ukraine. Similarly, our Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) is leading coordination with Military Criminal Investigative Organizations, the DOS and USAID OIGs, and other law enforcement and oversight partners. Investigators from these entities are working together to identify expenditures related to DoD outlays and contracts in support of Ukraine operations, and developing a joint approach to address fraud and corruption related to these expenditures.

In addition to proactively coordinating with our partner oversight agencies, the DoD OIG will continue its oversight of DoD support provided to the government of Ukraine—oversight that began long before the Russian invasion. In August 2020, we issued an evaluation of whether the DoD’s transfer of military equipment requiring enhanced end-use monitoring (EEUM) to the government of Ukraine complied with law and DoD guidance, and whether Ukraine’s security and accountability of U.S.-provided military equipment requiring EEUM met the criteria prescribed by law and regulation. A copy of that report is available at: https://media.defense.gov/2020/Sep/01/2002488973/-1/-1/1/DODIG-2020-121_REDACTEDV1.PDF

We recently announced several new oversight projects related to Ukraine, including an evaluation we initiated in February 2022 to determine the extent to which the DoD developed
plans to provide and account for security assistance and intelligence support to the government of Ukraine authorized by the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act. In response to a reporting requirement in the Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, we began a project in March 2022 to examine the DoD’s processes for tracking, reprogramming, and reporting the use of funds provided for assistance to Ukraine. We announced a separate project this week to review the DoD’s execution of the additional $20.1 billion appropriated for Ukraine assistance in the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2022. We will ensure oversight of any future DoD funding for Ukraine that Congress appropriates.

This week, we also announced an evaluation to determine the extent to which the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, U.S. Army Europe and Africa, is maintaining and accounting for Army prepositioned equipment (APS-2) in storage areas, and planning for the repair, replenishment, and replacement of APS-2 equipment issued in support of Ukraine and NATO defense forces. Furthermore, we plan to initiate two evaluations on information sharing with European partners and replenishing DoD equipment stocks that have been sent to Ukraine, as well as two classified evaluations related to Ukraine. We are well positioned to perform this oversight with a field office located in Germany. We will continue to consider additional projects to oversight funds, equipment, and other support provided to Ukraine. I would also like to highlight that we have a large body of completed and ongoing work related to the U.S. European Command, much of which impacts DoD efforts related to Ukraine.

I appreciate your interest in the our work. If you have additional questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Mr. Michael C. Zola, Assistant Inspector General for Legislative Affairs and Communications at (703) 604-8324.

Sincerely,

Sean W. O’Donnell
Acting Inspector General

cc:
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chair
Diana R. Shaw
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Inspector General,
Department of State
Nicole Angarella
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