

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on February 3, 2001, Romualdo Nisaya Garcia was arrested in the Republic of the Philippines, by the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Bureau of Immigration, with the assistance of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and the Department of Justice Legal Attaché office, for allegedly committing mail fraud and submitting false claims to the U. S. Government.

The arrest is the result of an investigation that disclosed that the defendant allegedly submitted false claims, and caused the submission of false claims to TRICARE. The claims were received by Wisconsin Physicians Service, Madison, WI, which is a fiscal intermediary for the TRICARE program. The total payments for all alleged fraudulent claims filed, for Garcia is in excess of \$205,847. Garcia had been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in 1999 on multiple charges of mail fraud and false claims.

If convicted, Garcia faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for each count.