

The Office of Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today, May 17, 2001, that Lawrence Edwin Crumbliss was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC, by the Honorable Earl Britt, to 5 years probation to include 364 days of home confinement wearing an electronic monitoring device. Further, he was ordered to make restitution of \$2,980 and ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the court. Judge Britt did not order a fine as the defendant is destitute. Also, Judge Britt did not order incarceration due to the defendant's being confined to a wheel chair. Crumbliss was found guilty by a jury of one count of embezzlement and one count of conspiracy to embezzle.

Crumbliss was the Executive Director of the Cardinal Mental Health Group, Inc., (CMHG). The CMHG implemented the Ft. Bragg/Child Adolescent Mental Health Demonstration Project, an approximately \$94 million dollar project, which provided mental health services to 0 to 18 years of age TRICARE eligible patients in the Ft. Bragg, Fayetteville, NC, catchment area from 1989 to 1995. Crumbliss and three codefendants were charged with converting over \$300,000 from CMHG to their personal use. Crumbliss' codefendants resolved their cases in plea bargain agreements.