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(Prof. Maya Hand)

# OPERATION DESERT STORM: DOD MET NEED FOR CHEMICAL SUITS AND MASKS, BUT LONGER TERM ACTIONS NEEDED: NSIAD-92-116



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BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 32 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in.Pursuant to a congressional request, GAO reviewed Department of Defense (DOD) supply of chemical equipment, focusing on whether: (1) adequate supplies of chemical protective suits, masks, and mask filters were available for Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield; and (2) DOD is effectively managing chemical equipment acquisition and distribution. GAO found that: (1) although U. S. armed forces participating in Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield did not experience shortages of chemical protective suits, masks, or mask filters, DOD was not adequately prepared for chemical warfare; (2) reserve stockpiles of chemical protective suits may have been significantly depleted if the war had lasted longer or chemical weapons had been used; (3) many troops were issued older suits and masks that provided adequate protection but lacked benefits found in newer suits; (4) to prevent the shortage of critical items during Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield, DOD established a new organization to identify worldwide stockpiles of chemical equipment and transferred the supplies to the Persian Gulf, purchased additional suits, stepped up efforts to rebuild older masks, and awarded contracts for mask filters; (5) DOD has long-standing problems finding enough manufacturers capable of and willing to produce suits at a price it is willing to pay and ensuring that manufacturers meet scheduled delivery dates; and (6) DOD has partially addressed its suit and mask problems, but a more comprehensive approach is needed. This item ships from La Vergne, TN. Paperback.

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