

Hello. I'm Michael Horowitz, Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Justice.

Today our office issued a report about the Drug Enforcement Administration's aviation operations with the Department of Defense in Afghanistan.

Our report determined that, collectively, the DEA and the DOD spent more than \$86 million for an advanced surveillance plane that has never even flown in Afghanistan.

More than seven years after the aircraft was purchased, the plane remains inoperable, and resting on jacks, in a facility in Delaware.

The plane was supposed to have advanced surveillance equipment, so that it could conduct counter-narcotics operations in Afghanistan. The program became known as the DEA's Global Discovery Program.

We found that while the Global Discovery Program was originally projected to cost \$22 million, it ended up costing taxpayers nearly four times the projected amount and has missed every intended delivery date. Moreover, the DEA ended up pulling all of its aviation operations out of Afghanistan in July 2015, before the plane was even delivered.

We made 13 recommendations to the DEA to help improve its management and oversight of its aviation operations and the Global Discovery program.

To learn more, please visit our website, where you can read today's full report, and hear a podcast discussing our findings in more detail.

Thank you very much for joining us today.