

Risky Business: Unauthorized Purchase of OCIE



ANY OTHER OLD-TIMERS OUT THERE REMEMBER THAT CLASSIC BOARD GAME CALLED **RISK**?

PART OF OUR JOB HERE AT PS IS TO KEEP AS MUCH RISK AS POSSIBLE **OFF** THE TABLE!

WORD ON THE GRAPEVINE IS THAT **TOO MANY SOLDIERS** ARE ORDERING THEIR ORGANIZATIONAL CLOTHING AND INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT (OCIE) FROM **UNAUTHORIZED SOURCES**.

UNAUTHORIZED SOURCES INCLUDE INTERNET WEBSITES SUCH AS GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION'S **ADVANTAGE** AND LOCAL RETAIL STORES AND VENDORS.

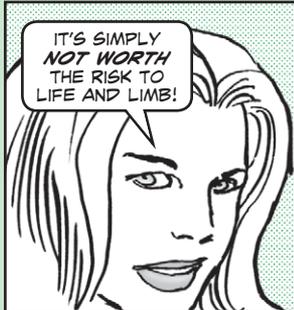


SOME SOLDIERS ARE EVEN ORDERING THEIR BALLISTIC PROTECTION ITEMS, BODY ARMOR AND ADVANCED COMBAT HELMET PADS THROUGH UNAPPROVED CHANNELS. **THAT'S JUST ASKING FOR TROUBLE.**

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE, **DON'T ORDER OCIE FROM UNOFFICIAL SOURCES.** IN MANY CASES, THESE ITEMS **DON'T** MEET ARMY PROTECTION AND SAFETY STANDARDS, AND MAY HAVE **FAILED** ARMY SAFETY TESTS.



IT'S SIMPLY **NOT WORTH** THE RISK TO LIFE AND LIMB!



TAKE MY WORD FOR IT—THE INTERNET IS A HANDY THING, BUT YOU **DON'T** WANT TO RELY ON BODY ARMOR PLUCKED FROM A **BARGAIN BIN!**



REMEMBER, SOLDIERS ARE ONLY AUTHORIZED TO GET PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY ITEMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPLY SYSTEM, AND THE APPROVED LIST OF ITEMS SOLD AT THE ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE MILITARY CLOTHING SALES STORES.

PROPER SOURCING IS THE **ONLY** WAY TO ENSURE THAT THE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT YOU'RE GETTING HAS MET ALL OF THE ARMY'S RIGOROUS TESTING AND SAFETY STANDARDS.

LEADERS, STEP UP AND ENSURE THAT YOUR SOLDIERS AND UNITS ARE PURCHASING THEIR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT THROUGH AUTHORIZED CHANNELS.

UNAUTHORIZED CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR OCIE PROVIDED DURING INITIAL FIELDING, ISSUED FROM SUPPLY ROOMS, OR SUPPLIED FROM CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITIES (CIFs).



SOLDIERS, IF YOU OR YOUR BUDDIES HAVE PROCURED YOUR PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FROM UNAUTHORIZED CHANNELS, NOTIFY YOUR UNIT SUPPLY ACTIVITY.

THEY CAN ORDER REPLACEMENTS THROUGH APPROVED SOURCES.

OR, THEY CAN SEND YOU TO YOUR LOCAL CIF FOR THE **RIGHT GEAR.**