

--The DDG-51 destroyer has increased in cost to the point where the Chief of Naval Operations has said that it is not affordable and is not a lower cost alternative to the CG-47 as the Navy had intended.

Tests are conducted during all phases of the acquisition cycle. We identified five systems in which we questioned the adequacy of the testing. Insufficient testing can adversely affect the systems' effectiveness, cost, or availability for deployment. For example:

--Government reliability, maintainability, and availability testing on the Sergeant York was canceled because the prototype was deemed unsuitable for testing, and the testing will not be done until production is underway.

--The accelerated test program for the Light Armored Vehicle program did not provide sufficient reliability, maintainability, availability, and durability testing before the production contractor was to be selected.

The subject of testing is a serious concern and draws almost as much attention as the cost growth issue. It has been the