

testing even more critical to ensuring that weapons achieve specified performance levels.

Because of the importance of test and evaluation, GAO has conducted, beginning in the early 1970s, numerous reviews of DOD's test and evaluation process. Many changes and improvements have been effected, but there is always room for improvement. In addition, care must be taken that past gains are not lost. I would like to discuss three examples of our current assignments covering various aspects of test and evaluation. They are

- the adequacy of test resources in certain areas,
- the Army's use of test and evaluation data, and
- the effectiveness of DOD test and evaluation in relation to current acquisition initiatives.

In our review of test resources we examined, electronic warfare threat simulators and aerial targets. Although the services have made significant improvements in other test resource areas, such as range instrumentation, problems in planning, organization, priority and funding levels, and intelligence support have led to severe shortages in