

# Decisions of The Comptroller General of the United States

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WITH

CUMULATIVE TABLES AND INDEX DIGEST

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GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

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# TABLE OF DECISION NUMBERS

	Page
B-149270 June 23_____	857
B-164786 June 28_____	863
B-169738 June 29_____	868
B-171899 June 4_____	830
B-172031 June 9_____	847
B-172581 June 7_____	844
B-172593 June 28_____	866
B-172671 June 14_____	850
B-172684 June 4_____	839
B-172761 June 21_____	852
B-172832 June 2_____	827
B-172855 June 2_____	829

Cite Decisions as 50 Comp. Gen.—.

Uniform pagination. The page numbers in the pamphlet are identical to those in the permanent bound volume.

## [ B-172832 ]

**Transportation—Household Effects—Commutation—Rate Base for Computation**

An employee who incident to moving his household goods and personal effects from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, to Montgomery County, Maryland, in his privately owned vehicle and a rental truck although entitled to reimbursement on a commuted rate basis may not have included in the commuted rate a metropolitan area rate or a surcharge allowance. The area rate is only provided on shipments by common carrier between the two locations involved, and the employee transported his own property, and the payment of a surcharge allowance, which is no longer authorized, was intended to reimburse an employee required to pay such a charge to a common carrier and was not intended to grant increased benefits to an employee moving his own goods.

**To J. E. Fowler, Jr., United States Department of the Interior,  
June 2, 1971:**

Your letter of April 30, 1971, with enclosures, requests our decision whether you may certify for payment the voucher transmitted therewith for \$1,172.05 in favor of Mr. William G. Wood, an employee of the Bureau of Mines, for reimbursement of expenses for the transportation of his household goods.

Incident to an appointment with the Bureau of Mines, Mr. Wood was authorized to travel from Sewickley, Pennsylvania, in Allegheny County, to Washington, D.C. He actually moved to Bethesda, Maryland, which is in Montgomery County. The travel authorization authorized the transportation of household goods and personal effects. You say that Mr. Wood moved his household goods by privately owned Volkswagen bus and a rented truck due to a movers' strike and has claimed reimbursement under the commuted rate system.

You further say that it appears that the employee has furnished satisfactory evidence of weight shipped which would entitle him to reimbursement for shipment of 11,000 pounds of household effects. However, since the goods were not shipped by common carrier, a decision is requested as to the allowance of (1) the additional amount authorized for a shipment originating in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and terminating in Montgomery County, Maryland, and (2) the usual surcharge allowance. General Services Administration Bulletin FPMR No. A-2, Supplement No. 23, dated April 10, 1970, effective October 3, 1969, issued pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-56, prescribing commuted rates to be used in reimbursing civilian employees of the Federal Government for transportation expenses incurred in moving their household goods and personal effects, provides in part on pages 10, 11, and 12 as follows:

**METROPOLITAN AREAS:** The rates shown in the table below apply to shipments originating or terminating in the particular cities and areas indicated and moving by common carrier. These rates are in addition to rates contained in Table 1, 2, or 3, whichever is applicable. If the shipment originates in one of the



on or after July 17, 1970, the surcharge no longer was applicable. The surcharge was included in the commuted rate schedule to enable appropriate reimbursement by the Government to employees who were required to make payments to carriers for such charges. The purpose of such provision was to prevent hardship or loss to employees who shipped by common carriers rather than to grant increased benefits in cases in which employees move their goods by privately owned automobiles or trucks and do not have a surcharge based on movement by a common carrier.

Accordingly, the voucher, which is returned herewith, may be certified for payment only after deletion of the surcharge allowance and the allowance for movement between certain metropolitan areas.

### [ B-172855 ]

#### **Officers and Employees—Transfers—Relocation Expenses—Temporary Quarters—Time Limitation**

Employees of the Federal Highway Administration who are transferred between duty stations within the State of Alaska are only entitled to subsistence expenses for a period of 30 days while occupying temporary quarters with their dependents, which is the period prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5724a (a) (3) and implementing regulations when a new official station is located within the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Canal Zone. The extension of the subsistence allowance for an additional period of up to 30 days occupancy of temporary quarters applies only when an employee transfers to or from Hawaii, Alaska, the territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Canal Zone, and, therefore, the employees transferred within Alaska are subject to the 30-day limitation.

#### **To I. E. Gillson, United States Department of Transportation, June 2, 1971:**

This is in reply to your letter of April 30, 1971, reference 08-00.14, requesting our decision whether employees transferring from Anchorage or Fairbanks, Alaska, to Juneau, Alaska, would be eligible for temporary quarters allowance for a maximum of 60 days under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 5724a.

You say that due to a planned reorganization of the Federal Highway Administration activities in Alaska several employees with headquarters in Alaska are to be transferred to Juneau, Alaska, on or about June 1, 1971. Because of the difficulties encountered in obtaining living accommodations anywhere in Alaska each of the employees has requested the maximum of 60 days temporary quarters allowance.

Section 5724a of Title 5, United States Code, providing for the payment of relocation expenses of employees transferred or reemployed, reads in pertinent part as follows:

(a) Under such regulations as the President may prescribe and to the extent considered necessary and appropriate, as provided therein, appropriations or other funds available to an agency for administrative expenses are available

for the reimbursement of all or part of the following expenses of an employee for whom the government pays expenses of travel and transportation under section 5724 (a) of this title:

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) Subsistence expenses of the employee and his immediate family for a period of 30 days while occupying temporary quarters when the new official station is located within the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Canal Zone. The period of residence in temporary quarters may be extended for an additional 30 days when the employee moves to or from Hawaii, Alaska, the territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Canal Zone.

Subsections 2.5b(1) and (2) of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-56, Revised June 26, 1969, pertaining to subsistence expenses of the employee and his immediate family while occupying temporary quarters when an employee is transferred to a new official station, provide as follows:

(1) Subsistence expenses of the employee, for whom a permanent change of station is authorized or approved, and each member of his immediate family (defined in 1.2d), for a period of not more than 30 *consecutive* days while necessarily occupying temporary quarters will be allowed when the new official station is located in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, United States territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone, provided a written agreement as required in 1.3c is signed in connection with such transfer. The period of consecutive days may be interrupted to take account of the time that is allowed for travel between the old and new official stations or which is due to circumstances attributable to official necessity, as for example, an intervening temporary duty assignment.

(2) Such expenses as provided in (1) above may be allowed for a period of not to exceed an additional 30 *consecutive* days while occupying temporary quarters when the employee is transferred either to or from Hawaii, Alaska, the territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Canal Zone to the extent determined to be necessary. The same considerations as expressed in (1) above are applicable in allowing any extension of the additional period.

Under the clear wording of the statute and regulations an extension of the allowance for an additional period of up to 30 days occupancy of temporary quarters may be granted only when the employee transfers to or from Hawaii, Alaska, the territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Canal Zone. Transfers within that State of Alaska are subject to the 30-day limitation in the first sentence of 5 U.S.C. 5724a(a)(3) and in subsection 2.5b(1) of Circular No. A-56.

Your question is accordingly answered in the negative.

[ B-171899 ]

### **Contracts—Requirements—Worldwide Performance Locations**

An invitation for bids that contemplates a construction type requirements contract for the reconditioning and maintenance of radomes located worldwide, and which requested one bid price for each type service for a particular size radome regardless of location and made site inspection impracticable, is not a deficient invitation and need not be revised to require separate bids for the more than 200 possible performance sites—an insurmountable administrative



workload—to allow for varying travel and transportation expense factors since regardless of location, the work is essentially the same at each site, making site inspections unnecessary, and the scheduling of service consecutively for adjacent locations will minimize travel expenses. Requirements contracts are valid and the contracting agency unable to state locations and performance dates, having estimated its requirements in good faith may make an award under the invitation.

### **Contracts—Labor Stipulations—Davis-Bacon Act—Suspension—Revoked**

The Davis-Bacon Act provisions and wage determinations in an invitation for bids that were to apply only to some of the worldwide performance sites at which radomes are to be reconditioned and maintained under a requirements contract, which were deleted by amendment upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, need not be reinstated because the suspension of the act was revoked by Proclamation 4040. The determination to resolicit a procurement and include the Davis-Bacon Act provisions although recommended was left to the discretion of contracting agencies by the Department of Labor, and a determination having been made that a resolicitation of the procurement would be prejudicial to bidders, a contract without the provisions may be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

### **To the Electronic Space Systems Corporation, June 4, 1971:**

We refer to your protest, by letter of February 8, 1971, and subsequent correspondence, against award by the Department of the Air Force of a contract to any bidder under invitation for bids (IFB) F04606-71-B0080, issued October 30, 1970, by Sacramento Air Materiel Area, McClellan Air Force Base, California. The procurement, which is set aside for small business, involves a construction type requirements contract for the performance of depot level reconditioning and maintenance of Government-owned radomes located throughout the world.

In light of your protest, the Department of the Air Force has withheld award under the IFB. However, the procuring activity states it is imperative that award be made no later than June 1, 1971, in order to allow sufficient time for the successful bidder to obtain theater and security clearances, travel orders and immunization shots for his personnel, develop logistics plans for movement of personnel to remote sites and schedule radar site downtime. The current contract, it is stated, may be extended under option only through June 30, 1971. In addition, the procuring activity calls attention to the fact that the majority of the radome sites are located in the Northern Hemisphere and maintenance must be accomplished during the summer months. Any slippage from the periods of optimum weather conditions, it is added, will cause curtailment of Depot Level Maintenance effort which could result in severe damage to vital GFM defense equipment.

The substance of your protest is that the IFB is deficient for lack of sufficient information regarding place of performance and estimated quantities to enable bidders to properly bid. You state that one bid price is requested for each type of service for a particular size radome

regardless of its location, whereas travel and transportation expenses obviously make performance more costly for sites far removed from the contractor's place of business than for closer sites. You therefore urge that separate bids should be solicited for each of the more than 200 possible performance sites so as to allow for the varying travel and transportation expense factors. In this connection, you cite as an example of a properly prepared solicitation an invitation for bids issued by the Federal Aviation Administration under date of March 18, 1971, covering reconditioning of fiberglass reinforced plastic radomes, which specifies 12 sites in each of two schedules, all located within the continental United States, at which the required work is to be performed.

You also complain that since the procuring activity did not provide bidders with a list of the possible places of performance until 12 days before the originally scheduled bid opening, bidders were not able to inspect the radome sites. Accordingly, you contend, the Government will be denied the benefit of the clauses "Conditions Affecting the Work" and "Site Investigation" included in the IFB.

The deficiencies regarding place of performance and impracticability of inspection by bidders of the possible worksites, you further contend, work to the advantage of the incumbent contractor. In this regard, you assert that such contractor has knowledge of Air Force practice regarding place of performance and also is in a position to be aware of site conditions.

In addition, you assert that while various terms are used for the required work, no distinction is drawn between terms which are similar. Further, you charge that the IFB fails to identify the additional services required by line items 61 and 62 and that line item 59 covering emergency services is too vague, even with an estimate of 12 emergencies over a period of 9 months, to result in real competition, since the emergencies could total 221, the number of unclassified worksites listed in the IFB. A prudent bidder, you contend, would be unwilling to assume the risks involved in bidding on the item and would therefore be deterred from bidding leaving the competition to those who are so imprudent as to bid a firm fixed price on costs which may vary on a scale of 1 to 100 or more.

In line with the foregoing arguments, you urge that in order to be fair the IFB should be revised to require a separate price for each geographic area in which work may be required (to allow for variances in travel and transportation costs) and, if the estimated quantities per site are to be a factor in the evaluation of bids, to provide information to bidders as to quantities actually ordered for each site in at least each of the past 3 fiscal years.

You also contend that the IFB should include provisions making the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, applicable to the contract and that it should incorporate a wage rate determination for each of the areas in which services may be performed. In this connection, you assert that while Presidential Proclamation 4031 of February 23, 1971, suspended application of the act, the revocation of the suspension by Presidential Proclamation 4040 of March 29, 1971, as implemented by Memorandum No. 93, issued by the Department of Labor, makes this procurement, initiated prior to February 23, subject to the act. From page 3 of the Memorandum you quote the following paragraph in support of your position on this issue :

Where bids or proposals for contract work were solicited subject to Davis-Bacon provisions prior to Proclamation 4031 suspending such provisions with respect to "contracts entered into" on or after February 23, 1971, and no further action has been taken and no contract entered into pursuant to such solicitation between February 23 and March 29, 1971, inclusive, it would appear that no contract or solicitation therefor became subject to the suspension proclamation before the revocation by Proclamation 4040 and that the additional effort and expense of issuing a resolicitation after March 29, 1971 would not be required as a result solely of the two proclamations. So long as the wage determination on the basis of which the solicitation was made remains in effect, a contract subject to its provisions may be entered into as it would have been if there had been no suspension during the intervening period.

The IFB describes the work as technical nonpersonal services and supplies for depot level reconditioning, maintenance, and emergency technical assistance of Government-owned air supported, rigid, space frame, and flat plane radomes located worldwide. The period of performance is 1 year commencing July 1, 1971, subject to extension for 90 additional days at the option of the Government, and the work is required to be performed in accordance with certain technical orders, directives, and specifications incorporated by reference in Appendix "A" of the IFB.

Line items 1 through 57 cover maintenance services for air supported, rigid and space frame radomes. For each type of service or combination of services specified, bids are requested on each of several sizes of radomes on a unit price basis. Next to each item a best estimated quantity is stated. The technical order which applies to these items, T.O. 31-1-69, as amended, which is attached to the IFB, defines the term "refurbishment" and specifies in detail the work which is to be performed in reconditioning, replacement, cleaning, repairing, painting, caulking and applying polyester resin, among other services.

Line item 58 covers renovation and/or repair of flat plane radomes at Eglin Field Air Force Base, Florida, and the best estimated quantity is stated as 1 unit. The work on this item is required to be performed in accordance with T.O. 31P1-2FPS85-262, dated April 1, 1969, which is among the applicable technical orders listed in Appen-

dix "A" to the IFB. The contracting officer explains that the words "renovate and/or repair" were used for this item to avoid confusion with the words "recondition and paint" which apply to the other types of radomes.

Line item 59 covers emergency technical services, and the estimated number of emergencies is 12 for the maximum period of 9 months, and the maximum number of personnel is three for any emergency. Bid prices are solicited for this item on a "per month" basis. The contracting officer states that this requirement has been included in Government contracts for many years to insure protection of vital communications and electronics equipment. While the frequency of emergencies is said be unpredictable, the contracting officer states that past experience has proven that it is minimal, and the estimate in the IFB represents the average number of emergencies, which are normally caused by acts of God, experienced over the past several years. The monthly price is solicited, according to the contracting officer, so that services may be ordered under this requirements contract at the beginning of each month and funds may be obligated to cover a specific period of time, thus dispensing with need for any further order if an emergency occurs and minimizing reaction time on the part of the contractor in line with the Government's requirement under this item.

Line item 60 covers cost reimbursable transportation services, which include transportation to overseas sites and emergency services travel. Within the continental United States, except Alaska, transportation of personnel and equipment and supplies is the obligation of the contractor for other than emergency services.

Line item 61 covers additional work of an inseverable nature not covered by items 1 through 58. Paragraph 6 of the Special Provisions of the IFB describes the inseverable work covered by this item as supplies or services so inseverable from the basic item of work that failure to perform by the contractor would preclude performance of the basic work required by a particular work order. As an example of work which would be covered by the item, the contracting officer cites missing radome panels or panels needing repair, either of which problem must be remedied before an order to paint may be filled.

Line item 62 covers additional work of a severable nature not otherwise included in items 1 through 58. Paragraph 7 of the Special Provisions in the IFB describes this work as supplies or services, the nature of which could not be determined at inception of the work order and performance of which would not preclude the contractor from performing the basic task covered by the work order. Severable work, the contracting officer further explains, is work which should be accomplished while the contractor is on the site to prevent possible

damage to the radome or CEM equipment (communications, electronics, meteorological). This work, which would include torqueing of bolts, repairing hatch assemblies, etc., cannot be determined in advance.

Line item 63 covers cost reimbursable contractor acquired property.

Only Items 1 through 59 will be considered in the evaluation of bids. Items 60 through 63 do not call for bid prices, and payment for such items will be made as the work is generated and performed.

Page 33 of the IFB carries the Requirements clause prescribed by Armed Services Procurement Regulation (ASPR) 7-1102.2(b), which advises bidders, among other things, that the quantities of supplies or services specified in the IFB are estimates only and are not purchased thereby and that the supplies or services required by the Government will be ordered by the issuance of delivery orders.

As issued on October 30, 1970, with an amendment, the IFB included a Davis-Bacon Act clause and wage determinations for 19 of the areas in which services might be required. You protested the absence of wage determinations for each performance site by your letter of February 8, 1971. On March 4, 1971, the procuring activity, acting in accordance with specific instructions in a memorandum issued on February 24, 1971, by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics) in implementation of Presidential Proclamation 4031, issued an amendment to the IFB deleting the Davis-Bacon Act provisions and specifically providing that the contractor is not required to comply with the provisions of the act. On April 12, 1971, the IFB was further amended to provide, among other things, for a new bid opening date of April 27. Further, in a letter dated April 20, Headquarters United States Air Force advised you that reinstatement of the Davis-Bacon Act by Presidential Proclamation 4040 of March 29, 1971, did not apply to the IFB in view of the fact that it was issued prior to March 29, 1971.

Headquarters United States Air Force has informed our Office that three bids, the same number as were received on last year's requirements, were received by the April 27 bid opening time, but you were not among the bidders. Further, the bid prices are reported to be \$428,795 (which is \$4,205 lower than the price of last year's contract with Century Aircraft), \$501,600, and \$639,261. Your bid on last year's requirements, according to the record, was highest at \$1,434,000.

The procuring activity states that the IFB is structured along the same lines as previous solicitations which have been issued since 1967 without complaint from any of the sources solicited, including you. In addition, the procuring activity maintains that there is no violation of ASPR, and therefore award should be permitted under the IFB. The supporting statement of the contracting officer is discussed below.

The contracting officer asserts that the provisions of T.O. 31-1-69, which is included in the bid package, adequately describe the services required by the IFB. Any work not encompassed in the terms used in the IFB as defined in the T.O., the contracting officer claims, would constitute the severable or inseverable work for which reimbursement is provided under Items 61 and 62.

On the issue of separate prices for work at each of the radome sites, the contracting officer observes that regardless of location the work is essentially the same at each site. In addition, the contracting officer states that pricing by location would require inclusion of cost of round trip travel between the bidder's plant and each site, which would increase the cost of radome maintenance. Currently, the contracting officer states, in line with Government policy of scheduling services at adjacent locations consecutively wherever possible, all radomes in need of maintenance in Alaska are scheduled consecutively for the summer months, and radomes requiring maintenance in Korea and Japan are likewise scheduled consecutively. Further, the work crews used in Korea and Japan may be utilized in Taiwan and in the Philippines prior to their return to the contractor's plant, and the contractor has sufficient latitude in scheduling the work to minimize travel to, from and within the general geographical areas involved. If prices were required by individual tasks, that is, by radome type and site location throughout the world, the contracting officer points out, the administrative workload would be insurmountable. As an example, it is stated that for a 55-foot rigid molded fiberglass dome, of which there are some 75 located throughout the world, 75 prices would be required, and, if a separate price is also required for each type of work specified in the IFB, i.e., paint, or paint and caulk, or caulk alone, 225 line items would be involved for only this particular size radome.

As to site inspection, the contracting officer observes that a radome of one type in one location would be the same as a radome of the same type in another location, and the specified work would also be the same. While the additional work might vary from radome to radome, bidding is not affected since such work will be priced separately by issuance of a work request. Finally, the contracting officer asserts that since you and other qualified bidders are thoroughly familiar with the types and quantities of labor and materials required to perform the work involved under any of the specified conditions, actual site visits are not required to prepare a bid.

As to the advantage of the IFB structure insofar as experienced bidders are concerned, the contracting officer urges that simply by requiring bids on a "per site" or specific geographic area basis would not eliminate such factor. Conversely, it is urged, a contractor with

past experience or knowledge of past work, who could have compiled a maintenance history, might be at an advantage in bidding on a per site basis. By not specifying work locations, it is asserted, the possibility that a previous contractor might take advantage of esoteric information is removed.

Requirements contracts are valid contracts. 1 Corbin on Contracts 156; 1 Williston on Contracts 104A. Further, where a requirements type of contract is contemplated by an agency, the courts and our Office have held that such contracts are valid if the estimate of the probable amount of goods or services to be generated was determined in good faith. 47 Comp. Gen. 365 (1968); 37 *id.* 688 (1958) and court cases therein cited. See, also, *Shader Contractors, Inc. v. United States*, 149 Ct. Cl. 539 (1960). Consistent with the decisions of our Office and the courts, ASPR 3-409.2 provides that the estimate of the Government's needs under requirements contracts must be as realistic as possible. While such estimate may be obtained from records pertaining to previous requirements or consumption, there is no requirement in ASPR that the procuring activity furnish such information to bidders.

The record in this case shows that, based on past experience, the Air Force anticipates need for the services in question with respect to one or more of the radomes located throughout the world but is not now in a position to state the number and locations of the radomes. The quantities stated in the IFB, however, are described by the Air Force as the best estimated quantities, and there is no evidence of record that such estimates were made in other than good faith.

In addition, the various documents incorporated in the IFB spell out in detail the services required for each of the several types of radomes, and the additional services are also well delineated. Further, while the Air Force is unable at this time to specify the areas in which the various services will be required, it has stated its intent to schedule work in adjacent areas consecutively wherever possible. This procedure, it would appear, should result in performance of services at more than one area with minimum travel and transportation expenses, a result which could not be achieved if the prices payable under the contract for the servicing of radomes in each area included travel and transportation expenses.

As to the context of the IFB, we do not concur with your view that the IFB should have been patterned after the IFB issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. Each contracting agency bears the primary responsibility for drafting specifications to reflect its minimum needs. The Federal Aviation Administration, we note, was in a position to specify 24 sites within the continental United States with known requirements together with a schedule of performance covering only the summer months. In this case, as the Air Force

has stated, there is need at numerous sites throughout the world for the services in question, but at this time the Air Force is not in a position to state with particularity the exact places involved or the dates of performance. Further, the format used in the IFB is similar to that which has been employed in previous procurements, and there has been no decline in the number of bids received by the procuring activity. Accordingly, and since the current bid prices are comparable to the bid prices for last year's requirements, with the exception that this year's high bid is more than 50 percent lower than your high bid of \$1,434,000 under last year's solicitation, it would not appear that the IFB structure has deterred competitive bidding on the procurement.

On the Davis-Bacon Act issue, you are advised that in a memorandum issued February 24, 1971, by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics), in implementation of Proclamation 4031, components of the Department of Defense were instructed, with respect to pending procurements, that in cases in which bids or offers had not been opened the opening date should be extended and the solicitation modified to remove all Davis-Bacon Act requirements. The March 4 amendment to the IFB in this procurement was in accord with such instructions.

After the issuance of Proclamation 4040, the Assistant Secretary of Defense issued a memorandum dated March 30, 1971, which superseded the February 24 memorandum and stated, among other things, that solicitations issued after March 29, 1971, would be subject to the Davis-Bacon Act but solicitations which had been issued between February 23, 1971, and March 30, 1971, should not include Davis-Bacon Act provisions. No reference was made in the March 30 memorandum to those solicitations which had been issued prior to February 23, 1971, and which had been amended between February 23 and March 30 to delete Davis-Bacon Act provisions in accordance with the instructions included in the Assistant Secretary's memorandum of February 24.

Department of Labor Memorandum No. 93, dated April 6, 1971, also issued in implementation of Proclamation 4040, included on page 2 this statement by the Under Secretary of Labor, "By its terms, Proclamation 4040 does not specifically require changes in pending procurement actions or contract procedures with respect thereto which were initiated prior to the revocation of the suspension." In addition, the Department issued Memorandum No. 94 on April 27, 1971, in which the Secretary of Labor made the following pertinent statements:

It has been brought to our attention that a number of agencies have pending procurement actions for construction projects on which bids or proposals were solicited without Davis-Bacon wage payment provisions during the period from



February 23 to March 29, inclusive, as a result of the suspension by Proclamation 4031, and to which the Davis-Bacon Act, except for the effect of the suspension, would be applicable.

For the further guidance of the agencies of the Federal Government and the District of Columbia with respect to these pending procurement actions, the President has asked me to explain that in the case of contracts not yet entered into as a result of the solicitation of bids or proposals during the period when Proclamation 4031 was effective, each agency should, if it can do so legally and without undue hardship, take such action to accomplish a resolicitation of bids or proposals as is authorized under governing procurement laws and regulations and is most appropriate to effect a reinstatement of the application of the Davis-Bacon provisions to the proposed contract work.

While the Department's Memorandum No. 94 of April 27, 1971, expresses the sentiment of the President that procurements pending on March 30, 1971, which, but for the suspension of the Davis-Bacon Act under Proclamation 4031 during the period February 24 to March 29, 1971, inclusive, would have included Davis-Bacon Act provisions be resolicited with such provisions, the Memorandum also indicates that the decision in each case is for the particular contracting agency to make. In this connection, the Department of the Air Force has advised our Office that inasmuch as bids had been opened on April 27, 1971, under the amended IFB, which did not include Davis-Bacon Act provisions, prior to receipt of notice by the procuring activity of the issuance of Department of Labor Memorandum No. 94 of the same date, the Air Force does not consider that resolicitation of bids under a new IFB with Davis-Bacon Act provisions would be in the interest of the Government or of the competitive bidding system. In this regard, the Department points out that aside for the need of award before June 1, 1971, for the reasons advanced by the procuring activity, bid prices have been publicly exposed, and to resolicit the procurement would therefore work to the prejudice of the three bidders who in good faith and at some expense responded to the IFB. In the circumstances, we are unable to conclude that the proposal by the Department of the Air Force to make award under the IFB as presently constituted, to the lowest bidder who is determined to be both responsive and responsible, is not in accord with the requirements of the pertinent law and regulations. For your information, however, we enclose a copy of our letter of today to the Secretary of the Air Force in which we suggest that action be taken to make contract requirements more specific in future procurements.

For the reasons stated, your protest is denied.

[ B-172684 ]

### **Contracts—Subcontracts—Bid Shopping—Definiteness of Subcontractor Listing Requirements**

Although to be responsive, a bidder must comply with the subcontractor listing requirements of an invitation for bids as this information is necessary in order

for the contracting agency to control bid shopping, it is erroneous to require bidders to comply with the requirement for a specification classification that is not set out as a category in the subcontractor listing form attached to the invitation, for if the requirement was material, the procuring officials should have indicated in explicit terms the sections of the specifications that were subject to bid shopping. Therefore, the lowest bidder under an invitation to construct a Federal Building and Post Office who complied with the subcontractor listing requirements for all categories indicated is a responsive bidder even though all subcontractor addresses were not furnished and one name was misspelled as this is information obtainable without further bidder contact.

**To the Administrator, General Services Administration, June 4, 1971:**

By letter dated May 5, 1971, the General Counsel, General Services Administration (GSA), furnished our Office with a report in the protest of Wilkins Company, Inc., Boulder, Colorado, against the award of a contract to any other bidder for construction of the Federal Building and Post Office, Fort Collins, Colorado, project No. 66-124 (05046).

No award has been made pending resolution of the protest, and we are advised that bids have been extended until June 5, 1971.

The controversy in this case concerns the manner in which bidders responded to an invitation requirement to list proposed subcontractors for certain specified areas of work to be performed under the contract. Although it is the GSA conclusion that all four bidders are nonresponsive to this requirement, it is suggested that the purported nonresponsiveness be waived on the ground that no bidder would be prejudiced by such action in view of the fact that all bidders are equally nonresponsive to the same invitation requirement, and that award to the otherwise responsive bidder, Wilkins, would be in the Government's interest.

For reasons set out below, we conclude that while the bids of two of the bidders, Wilkins, the low bidder, and Hensel Phelps Construction Co., the third low bidder, are, in fact, nonresponsive to the subcontractor listing requirement, the bidder of the second low bidder, Reid Burton Construction Co., Inc., is responsive to the listing requirement, as apparently is the bid of the fourth low bidder, Weaver Construction Company.

Pertinent sections from the subcontractor listing requirement contained in the invitation Special Conditions are set out below:

5.1 For each category on the List of Subcontractors which is included as part of the Bid Form, the bidder shall submit the name and address of the individual or firm with whom he proposes to subcontract for performance of such category, *Provided*, That the bidder may enter his own name for any category which he will perform with personnel carried on his own payroll (other than operators of leased equipment) to indicate that the category will not be performed by subcontract.

5.2 If the bidder intends to subcontract with more than one subcontractor for a category or to perform a portion of a category with his own personnel and subcontract with one or more subcontractors for the balance of the category,

the bidder shall list all such individuals or firms (including himself) and state the service to be furnished by each.

\* \* \* \* \*

5.13 If the bidder fails to comply with the requirements of paragraphs 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3 of this Clause, the bid will be rejected as nonresponsive to the invitation.

In addition, the invitation contains the following with respect to "specialists":

6.1 The term "specialist" as used in the specification shall mean an individual or firm of established reputation (or, if newly organized, whose personnel have previously established a reputation in the same field), which is regularly engaged in, and which maintains a regular force of workmen skilled in either (as applicable) manufacturing or fabricating items required by the contract, installing items required by the contract, or otherwise performing work required by the contract. Where the contract specification requires installation by a specialist, that term shall also be deemed to mean either the manufacturer of the item, an individual or firm licensed by the manufacturer, or an individual or firm who will perform the work under the manufacturer's direct supervision.

The form attached to the invitation for subcontractor listing sets out 10 categories and requires the listing of the names and addresses of proposed subcontractors as well as the portion of the listed category to be performed by each where more than one subcontractor per category is to be listed.

The table of contents for volume I of the specification is divided into 16 divisions with various numbered sections listed in each division. The text of volume I of the specification, however, does not repeat the division headings set out in the table of contents, but instead gives only the various section numbers with accompanying description for each.

The categories in the subcontractor listing form in two instances, those entitled "Concrete" and "Electrical Work," are substantially the same as the corresponding division captions set out in the table of contents of the specification, viz, "Concrete" and "Electrical."

Division 3 of the volume I table of contents, entitled "Concrete," is broken down into the following four sections:

SECTION 0330 STRUCTURAL CONCRETE  
SECTION 0331 ARCHITECTURAL CAST-IN-PLACE CONCRETE  
SECTION 0344 ARCHITECTURAL PRECAST CONCRETE  
(Architectural Cast Stone)  
SECTION 0352 LIGHTWEIGHT INSULATING ROOF FILL

Similarly, division 16 of the table of contents, "Electrical," contains five sections as follows:

SECTION 1605 ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS  
SECTION 1636 SNOW MELTING SYSTEM (Electric)  
SECTION 1638 UNDERFLOOR DUCT SYSTEM  
SECTION 1640 LIGHTING FIXTURES  
SECTION 1656 FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

However, while the subcontractor listing form lists "Woodwork, Including Carpentry & Millwork," the relevant division of the volume I table of contents merely lists "Carpentry" with sections thereunder

only for "Carpentry" and "Plastic Laminate Finished Panels." The remaining categories of the subcontractor list are in most instances categories which correspond roughly with specification section headings, rather than division headings.

It is the position of the administrative report that the bid of the low bidder, Wilkins, is nonresponsive because while it listed material suppliers for the concrete and woodwork subcontractor list categories, it did not list itself in order to indicate its intention that it would perform the remaining work in those categories as required by paragraph 5.1 of the invitation Special Conditions. The Hensel Phelps bid which has expired would similarly be considered nonresponsive because while it listed subcontractors for "deck forming" under the concrete category and for "millwork" under the woodwork category, it did not list itself as performing the remaining work in those categories.

With respect to the remaining bids, it is pointed out that section 0344 of the specification, Architectural Precast Concrete, is required to be performed by a "specialist" as defined by the invitation, and that while two of the four bidders listed either subcontractors or themselves for the concrete category, none of the bidders listed anyone who, in the opinion of the contracting officials, qualified as a "specialist." Thus, it is contended that all bidders are equally nonresponsive in this regard.

We agree that the failure of the Wilkins bid to list itself as intended performer of part of the work covered by the first two subcontractors listing categories is sufficient to render that bid nonresponsive in view of the explicit direction in Special Conditions paragraph 5.1, quoted above, that such listing be included, and the advice in paragraph 5.13, also quoted above, that failure to comply with section 5.1 will result in bid rejection. This conclusion is in accord with the position taken by our Office since our decision in 43 Comp. Gen. 206 (1963) that subcontractor listing requirements should be considered material invitation requirements in order to control the undesirable practice by prime contractors of bid shopping, i.e., the seeking after award by a prime contractor of lower priced contractors than those originally considered in the formulation of the bid price, and that strict compliance with subcontractor listing requirements is necessary. See B-166971, June 27, 1969, and cases cited therein.

However, in our opinion, the conclusion that bidders were required to list subcontractors for architectural precast concrete, or for any other specification classification not specifically set out as a category in the subcontractor listing form attached to the invitation, is erroneous. The subcontractor listing requirement has been determined to be a material invitation requirement not because it is necessary to assure performance in accordance with the contract specifications but rather because of a desire on the part of GSA to control bid shopping. It is the

duty of the procuring officials, then, to determine which sections of the specification work are subject to the evils of bid shopping and to list them in the invitation.

In this case, reading the specifications as a whole and the listing requirement leads us to conclude that there was no requirement to list any more than that which was listed by the second low bidder. For example, the administrative report takes the position that specification section 0331, Architectural Precast Concrete, a "specialty" category, was subject to the listing requirement apparently on the theory that the specification section entitled Architectural Precast Concrete falls under the division heading in the specification table of contents entitled "Concrete." However, to follow this rationale would mean that proposed subcontractors would also have to be listed for any of the other 10 specification sections listed under the table of contents divisions entitled "Concrete," "Carpentry," and "Electrical." At least two of these other specification sections—section 0640, "Plastic Laminate Finished Panels" and section 0352, "Lightweight Insulating Roof Fill"—also require specialist qualifications, for which the listing of the prime offeror would apparently not suffice. It does not appear, however, that listing for work under these latter specification sections was intended as they are not mentioned in the administrative report and, in fact, no bidders gave listings for them.

It is our belief that those portions of the work intended to be subject to the listing requirement should be clearly indicated in the listing form, in terms sufficiently explicit to enable bidders to determine without reference to other supporting documents what is required.

We therefore conclude that the second low bid of Reid Burton which listed itself or subcontractors for those phases of work ordinarily understood to fall within the categories of "Concrete" and "Woodwork" was responsive to those categories. While the addresses of Reid Burton's proposed subcontractors for the remaining categories are not listed in each instance and while the name of one subcontractor was misspelled, we have been advised that each listed proposed subcontractor is sufficiently identified in the bid for the contracting officer to determine its identity without further contact with Reid Burton. Inasmuch as this is all that is required by our decisions 50 Comp. Gen. 295, October 16, 1970, and B-169974, August 27, 1970, we conclude that Reid Burton is responsive with respect to the remaining categories as well.

Accordingly, if otherwise proper, award may be made to Reid Burton.

## [ B-172581 ]

**Contracts—Labor Stipulations—Nondiscrimination—“Affirmative Action Programs”**

When an invitation for bids to rehabilitate and remodel apartment buildings requires bidders to complete an appendix to the invitation which is intended to implement the Washington Plan that provides equal employment opportunity on Federal construction projects exceeding \$500,000, and which was issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 11246, the mere signing of the appendix without submitting the required specific percentage goals for minority manpower utilization renders the low bid nonresponsive as the completion of the appendix is a condition precedent to bid acceptance. Therefore, the failure to furnish the minority manpower goals is not a minor informality that may be corrected or waived under section 1-2.405 of the Federal Procurement Regulations and the deficient bid is not eligible for award.

**To Sher and Harris, June 7, 1971:**

You have protested by letters of April 15, May 3 and 4, 1971, against the rejection of the low bid of the Northeast Construction Co. under invitation for bids (IFB) No. 71-481, issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the general rehabilitation and remodeling of vacant apartment buildings in the Southeast section of Washington, D.C.

The next low bidder, Bird Associates, Inc., has objected to an award to Northeast because it failed to complete appendix “A” of the invitation. Appendix “A” is an implementation of the Washington Plan (see 41 CFR 60-5) for equal employment opportunity on Federal construction projects exceeding \$500,000. Bird contends that completion of the appendix by a bidder “is a condition precedent to any bid being accepted as being responsive.” Consequently, it is argued that the mere signing of appendix “A” in two places by Northeast without submitting therein its specific percentage goals for minority manpower utilization rendered its bid nonresponsive. For the reasons hereinafter stated, we agree.

Paragraph 2 of amendment No. 1 incorporated appendix “A” into the IFB stating that the appendix “stipulates Contractor responsibilities under government requirements for affirmative action to assure compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity Requirements of Executive Order No. 11246 for federally involved Construction Contracts.”

The appendix, entitled *“NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY,”* was included in the IFB in compliance with and implementation of an order issued on June 1, 1970, by the Secretary of Labor, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Wage and Labor Standards, and the Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance. The order indicated that the Wash-

ington Plan is to be implemented by including in the invitation for bids a notice substantially similar to one captioned "Appendix A," which is attached to the order. Appendix "A" of the IFB contains substantially similar language to that required by the order. The Requirements, Terms and Conditions of the appendix include a statement of the prescribed ranges of minority manpower utilization for specifically designated trades covering four distinct time periods which would constitute an acceptable affirmative action program; for example:

	Range of Minority Group Employment from May 31, 1971 Until May 31, 1972
Trade	
Electricians	16%-22%

Bidders were required to submit specific goals for minority manpower utilization within the prescribed ranges for each particular trade to be achieved on all work of the bidder during the term of the performance of any resultant contract, as follows:

Trade	Estimated Total Employment for the Trade on the Contract from May 31, 1971 Until May 31, 1972	Number of Minority Group Employees and Their Per- centage of the Total from May 31, 1971 Until May 31, 1972
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While you admit that Northeast did not submit specific goals for minority manpower utilization as required by the appendix, you invite our attention to the fact that Northeast signed and dated the appendix at pages 4 and 12 thereof. Therefore, it is contended that the bid was responsive in all material respects since the signatures were "intended to mean, and indeed could only mean that Northeast \* \* \* was committing itself and committed itself to adopt as its goals for minority manpower utilization, the goals [ranges] of the Washington Plan as set forth in the Requirements, Terms and Conditions of Appendix A." Further, it is argued that Northeast's failure to complete the blank spaces calling for specific goals of minority manpower utilization was a minor informality or irregularity, merely a matter of form and not of substance, or, at most, a variation from the exact requirement of the IFB, which can be corrected or waived in accordance with section 1-2.405 of the Federal Procurement Regulations (FPR).

Section 1 of the Requirements, Terms and Conditions of appendix "A" forbids the awarding of a construction contract of the type involved here—

\* \* \* unless the bidder *completes* and submits, prior to bid opening, this document designated as Appendix A \* \* \* which *shall include* specific goals of minority manpower utilization for each trade designated below \* \* \* during the term of his performance of the contract, *such goals to be established* \* \* \* at least within the ranges established by this Appendix \* \* \*.

\* \* \* \* \*

*A bidder who fails or refused to complete or submit such goals shall not be deemed a responsive bidder and may not be awarded the contract* \* \* \*. In no case shall there be any negotiation over the provisions of the specific goals

submitted by the bidder after the opening of bids and prior to the award of the contract.

To be eligible for award, *each bidder will be required to comply with this Appendix for the hereinbefore designated trades to be used during the term of the performance of the contract \* \* \*.* [Italic supplied.]

In addition, paragraph 2 of amendment No. 1 states:

\* \* \* Bidder is cautioned to *complete* Appendix A as required therein and return the completed Appendix A with the bid. *Failure to do so shall cause the bid to be reected as nonresponsive.* [Italic supplied.]

In view of the above, and as set forth below, we do not agree that a failure to submit specific goals for minority manpower utilization is a deviation which can be waived or corrected. Section 3 of the Requirements, Terms and Conditions of appendix "A" states that "The contractor's or subcontractor's goals established within the above ranges shall express the contractor's \* \* \* *commitment* of the percentage of minority personnel who will be working in each specified craft on each of his projects." Also, section 4 thereof notes that the *commitment* to specific goals is to meet affirmative action obligations. [Italic supplied.] Section 5 thereof further buttresses our conclusion. It reads, in pertinent part, that:

The contractor's or subcontractor's \* \* \* commitment to specific goals for minority manpower utilization as required by this Appendix A shall constitute a commitment to make every good faith effort to meet such goals \* \* \*.

In the event that the contractor fails to meet the specific goals which he establishes, a determination of whether or not he exercised "good faith" in attempting to meet said goals is based and correlative upon his specific commitment thereon. Sanctions such as contract cancellation can be imposed if it is determined that the contractor did not employ the requisite "good faith." It is our view that the submission of goals by the successful bidder would operate to make the requirement for "every good faith effort" to attain such goals a material part of his contractual obligation upon award of a contract. Therefore, the obligations imposed by appendix "A" would become a part of the contract specifications against which a contractor's performance will be judged in the event he fails to attain his stated goals, just as much as his stated goals become a part of the contract specifications against which his performance will be judged in the event he does attain his stated goals.

With the foregoing in mind, we cannot agree that, because it signed appendix "A" in two places, Northeast was committed to the prescribed minimum percentage ranges for minority group employment set forth in the Requirements, Terms and Conditions of the appendix. Upon examination of the Northeast bid and the attached appendix "A," we find no basis to conclude that Northeast was legally bound to at least the minimum prescribed percentage ranges. The appendix,



read as a whole, is quite specific that the bidder must submit his goals, since his compliance is measured by his goals and not by the prescribed minimums. Accordingly, it is our opinion that a failure by a bidder to submit specific individual goals for minority manpower utilization constitutes such a material deviation from the stated requirements of appendix "A" that such a deficient bid cannot be regarded as eligible for award under the subject invitation.

### [ B-172031 ]

#### **Compensation—Additional—Environmental Pay Differential—Compensatory Time in Lieu**

Air National Guard technicians, whether they are wage or nongraded employees or General Schedule employees, who for a 12-hour workday receive 4 hours compensatory time for work in excess of 8 hours a day, or receive compensatory time for an 8-hour Sunday tour of duty, are not entitled to environmental differential pay, night shift differential pay, or premium pay, as 32 U.S.C. 709(g) in authorizing the Secretary concerned to prescribe the hours of duty for the technicians and to fix their basic compensation or additional compensation, provides for the granting of compensatory time in an amount equal to the time spent in irregular or overtime work with no compensation for the compensatory time, since the compensatory time is intended to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work.

#### **Compensation—Additional—Environmental Pay Differential—Premium Pay in Lieu**

An Air National Guard technician who assigned to a 24-hour tour of duty at an Air National Aircraft Control and Warning Site receives 12 percent annual premium pay under 32 U.S.C. 709(g), which is prescribed for unusual tours of duty, irregular duty, or additional duty, and work on days that are ordinarily non-workdays, when exposed to duty in a hazardous category is not entitled to environmental differential pay since premium pay not to exceed 12 percent of basic pay is authorized to be paid in lieu of additional compensation, including differentials and overtime compensation.

#### **To the Chief, National Guard Bureau, June 9, 1971:**

We refer further to your letter of February 23, 1971, reference NGB-TNS, requesting a decision concerning the entitlement of National Guard technicians to premium pay and environmental (hazardous) differential pay during periods of overtime work.

You state that the following four questions set forth typical situations common to the National Guard technician program:

Question No. 1: An Air Technician is exposed for the first time to an Explosives and Incendiary Material High Degree Hazard category in the 9th hour of a twelve hour workday (8-hours regular schedule, 4-hours compensatory time). As environmental differential pay constitutes base pay, how many hours of environmental differential pay, if any, is the technician entitled?

Question No. 2: The last four hours of an Air Technician's workday of twelve hours (8-hours regular schedule, 4-hours compensatory time) are for a period of time for which night shift differential is normally authorized. Is the technician entitled to night shift differential pay?

Question No. 3: A technician at an Air National Guard Aircraft Control and Warning Site is on a twenty-four (24) hour tour from 0800 hours Tuesday to 0800 hours Wednesday. The technician is entitled to 12% annual premium

pay for unusual tours of duty, irregular duty, additional duty (hours in excess of 80-hours during a bi-weekly pay period), and work on days that are ordinarily nonworkdays. Further, during the twenty-four (24) hour tour, the technician is credited for two hours of work for each three hours spent on site, and one hour of standby time for each three hours spent on site. During the twenty-four hour tour, the technician is exposed to a Poisons (Toxic Chemicals) Low Degree Hazard category. As environmental differential pay constitutes base pay, how many hours of environmental differential pay, if any, is the technician entitled?

Question No. 4: A technician is required to work on a Sunday in support of a Military Airlift Command Mission, outside his regularly scheduled tour of duty. The technician would be credited on the Time and Attendance Card with eight hours Compensatory Time Worked. Is the technician entitled to premium pay for Sunday Work?

You ask that a determination be made regarding the above questions and the effect 32 U.S.C. 709, as amended by the National Guard Technicians Act of 1968, Public Law 90-486, 82 Stat. 755, has upon the entitlement of National Guard technicians to premium pay and environmental pay during periods of compensatory (overtime) work.

We understand that employees subject to the General Schedule as well as wage or nongraded employees are included in the four situations described above.

Subsection 709 (g) of Title 32, United States Code, provides:

(g) (1) Notwithstanding sections 5544(a) and 6102 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, the Secretary concerned may, in the case of technicians assigned to perform operational duties at air defense sites—

(A) prescribe the hours of duties;

(B) fix the rates of basic compensation; and

(C) fix the rates of additional compensation;

to reflect unusual tours of duty, irregular and additional duty, and work on days that are ordinarily nonworkdays. Additional compensation under this subsection may be fixed on an annual basis and is determined as an appropriate percentage, not in excess of 12 percent, of such part of the rate of basic pay for the position as does not exceed the minimum rate of basic pay for GS-10 of the General Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) Notwithstanding sections 5544(a) and 6102 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, the Secretary concerned may, for technicians other than those described in clause (1) of this subsection, prescribe the hours of duty for technicians. Notwithstanding sections 5542 and 5543 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, such technicians shall be granted an amount of compensatory time off from their scheduled tour of duty equal to the amount of any time spent by them in irregular or overtime work, and shall not be entitled to compensation for such work.

Section 8(a) of Public Law 90-486 (32 U.S.C. 709 note) states that, except as provided in 32 U.S.C. 709 (g), the Secretary concerned shall fix the rate of basic compensation in accordance with the General Schedule in 5 U.S.C. 5332 or under the appropriate prevailing rate schedule in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5341.

Senate Report No. 1446, 90th Congress, 2d session, part of the legislative history of Public Law 90-486, states at page 3, "With regard to special pays, overtime, differential and premium pay, none is authorized under the present system, only compensatory time off." With respect to the new legislation which superseded the old, the report states at page 16:

**PREMIUM PAY FOR TECHNICIANS EMPLOYED AT AIR DEFENSE SITES**

The bill authorizes the Secretary concerned, in the case of technicians assigned to perform operational duties at air defense sites, to prescribe the hours of those duties, fix the rates of basic compensation, and authorize additional compensation not to exceed 12 percent of such part of the rate of basic pay as does not exceed the minimum rate of basic pay for GS-10 of the General Schedule.

There are approximately 5,100 technicians affected by this provision. About 4,500 are on duty 62 hours a week as part of their normal employment; 350 are normally on duty about 50 hours a week. The Department of Defense has indicated that those on duty for 62 hours will be authorized annual premium pay in the amount of 12 percent of basic compensation and those on duty for 50 hours annual premium pay at 8 percent.

**AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY TO PRESCRIBE THE HOURS OF WORK WITH AUTHORITY FOR COMPENSATORY TIME OFF**

The bill provides that the Secretary concerned may prescribe the hours of duty for all technicians (other than those employed at air defense sites where separate authority will apply) and directs the Secretary to grant compensatory time off to a technician from a regularly scheduled tour of duty in an amount equal to the amount of time spent in irregular or overtime work in lieu of being paid for that work. This authority will continue the existing practice regarding hours of work and compensatory time off. It is the firm view of the committee that the irregular hours of work to which technicians are subjected on frequent occasions make it impractical, both from the standpoint of the Government and the individual, to be limited to the normal provisions regarding a straight 40-hour week with overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work. The frequent irregular hours are inherent in the technician job and position.

The applicable parts of the House Report No. 1823, 90th Congress, 2d session, at pages 12 and 13, are to the same effect.

We note that the statutory provision regarding compensatory time off for irregular or overtime work specifically states that no compensation is allowable for such work. Also, that portion of the legislative history quoted above dealing with compensatory time off indicates that such time off is to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work.

The statutory provision and the statement in the legislative reports relating to the 12 percent additional compensation are not as clear regarding the types of compensation it supplants. No reference is made therein even to overtime compensation but it seems apparent that the language "(C) fix the rates of additional compensation" as used in the above statute includes differentials such as for night, holiday, Sunday, and hazardous duty compensation, as well as overtime compensation. Therefore, it is reasonable to say that the same language "additional compensation" used in the next sentence of the statute with respect to the 12 percent of basic pay was intended to mean that it would be in lieu of the additional compensation including differentials and overtime compensation which otherwise could be fixed.

Accordingly, as to questions 1 and 3, no environmental differential is payable. Questions 2 and 4 are answered in the negative.

## [ B-172671 ]

**Compensation—Promotions—Whitten Rider Restriction—Waiver**

Following the upgrading of the entrance grades for attorneys to GS-9 and GS-11 from GS-7 and GS-9, and the adjusting of grades as a consequence, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) negotiated an agreement with the NLRB Professional Association to consider shorter time periods for promotions and requested waiver of the Whitten Amendment requirement of 1-year ingrade except when only 5 weeks or less remained to complete the required year of service, and as the agreement entered into pursuant to Executive Order No. 10988, which reserved to the Government the authority to promote the efficiency of personnel operations, does not guarantee promotions, the exercise of the 5-week rule is administrative and its validity is not a matter for arbitration. Therefore, an attorney whose promotion was delayed by reason of the 5-week rule is not entitled to a retroactive promotion for in the absence of administrative error the general rule against retroactive promotions applies.

**To the Chairman, United States Civil Service Commission, June 14, 1971:**

Reference is made to your letter of April 20, 1971, requesting our decision as to whether the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) may lawfully make a retroactive promotion of one of its employees (if an exception to the Whitten Amendment be granted by the Commission) in order to comply with an advisory arbitration award. It is stated that the arbitrator found that the Board's decision not to promote the employee at a particular time under a Board-created "five-week cut-off" rule was a violation of a negotiated agreement between the Board and a labor organization.

We understand that effective September 1, 1968, new entrance grades for attorneys were established at grades GS-9 and GS-11 instead of at GS-7 and GS-9. Attorneys hired earlier in GS-7 and GS-9, who qualified under the new standards, were promoted and the Board requested waiver by the Commission of the service-in-grade requirement when necessary. Later the Board took action to adjust the grades of attorneys in GS-11 and GS-12 who had been hired before September 1, 1968.

In October 1969 the Board negotiated agreements with the NLRB Professional Association which contained shorter time periods for consideration for promotion. The newly established time-in-grade requirements were as follows:

- a. Attorneys shall be eligible for consideration for promotion from GS-9 to GS-11 after 1 year in grade.
- b. Attorneys shall be eligible for consideration for promotion from GS-11 to GS-12 after 1 year in grade and a minimum of 14 months of appropriate Board experience.
- c. Attorneys shall be eligible for consideration for promotion from GS-12 to GS-13 after a minimum of 16 months in grade and 30 months of appropriate Board experience.

d. Policy set forth in a-c above is not to be interpreted to imply automatic promotion or to preclude earlier promotion where appropriate for those attorneys who have had legal experience with other Federal agencies, clerking experience or experience as a private practitioner, as well as for those attorneys who by their performance indicate they are performing at a higher grade level.

Apparently, there were attorneys who had completed the specified Board service who were deserving of promotion without regard to the time-in-grade policy set forth in the above agreement but who could not be promoted without obtaining a waiver of the Whitten Amendment requirement of 1 year in grade from the Civil Service Commission. If the time required to complete the requirement of 1 year in grade was appreciable, the Board would request that a waiver be granted by the Commission. However, the Board had a practice that if the interval was 5 weeks or less no request would be made and the promotion would be made effective at the beginning of the first pay period after the 1-year service requirement was met. The reason given for this practice was a balancing of the prejudice to the individual against the expenditure of time and effort to process the request for the waiver without which the promotion could not be granted in any event.

In the specific case here involved the Board determined that Mr. Amedeo Greco, a GS-12 attorney, was eligible for promotion (apparently on April 11, 1970). However, because of the 5-week rule his promotion was not made until May 17, 1970, after he had completed 1 year in grade. Mr. Greco and the NLRB Professional Association filed a grievance which was subsequently heard by an arbitrator. The arbitrator held that Mr. Greco should be compensated for the delay in his promotion and that the 5-week rule should be abandoned. The arbitrator based his award, in part, on findings that the 5-week rule was not applied consistently and that all requests for exceptions to the Whitten Amendment sought by the Board for attorneys in situations similar to that of Mr. Greco were granted by the Commission.

Regarding the granting of retroactive pay increases we stated the following in B-168715, January 22, 1970:

As a general rule an administrative change in salary may not be made retroactively effective in the absence of a statute so providing. 28 Comp. Gen. 706 (1947), 39 *id.* 583 (1960), 40 *id.* 207 (1960). However, we have permitted adjustments (retroactively effective) of salary rates in certain cases when errors occurred in failures to carry out *nondiscretionary* administrative regulations or policies. See 34 Comp. Gen. 380 (1955) and 39 *id.* 550 (1960). Also, we have permitted retroactive adjustments in cases where the administrative error has deprived the employee of a right granted by statute or regulation. See 21 Comp. Gen. 369, 376 (1941), 37 *id.* 300 (1957), 37 *id.* 774 (1958).

With respect to agreements with employee organizations Executive Order No. 10988, January 18, 1962, effective during the period the

agreement here concerned was entered into, provides in pertinent part as follows:

Sec. 7. Any basic or initial agreement entered into with an employee organization as the exclusive representative of employees in a unit must be approved by the head of the agency or an official designated by him. All agreements with such employee organizations shall also be subject to the following requirements, which shall be expressly stated in the initial or basic agreement and shall be applicable to all supplemental, implementing, subsidiary or informal agreements between the agency and the organization:

(1) In the administration of all matters covered by the agreement officials and employees are governed by the provisions of any existing or future laws and regulations, including policies set forth in the Federal Personnel Manual and agency regulations, which may be applicable, and the agreement shall at all times be applied subject to such laws, regulations and policies;

(2) Management officials of the agency retain the right, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, (a) to direct employees of the agency, (b) to hire, promote, transfer, assign, and retain employees in positions within the agency, and to suspend, demote, discharge, or take other disciplinary action against employees, (c) to relieve employees from duties because of lack of work or for other legitimate reasons, (d) to maintain the efficiency of the Government operations entrusted to them, (e) to determine the methods, means and personnel by which such operations are to be conducted; and (f) to take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out the mission of the agency in situations of emergency.

The agreement in question does not guarantee promotions of the attorneys involved, but merely states that such attorneys shall be eligible for consideration for promotion when they have completed the requisite periods of service. It cautions that the policy set forth therein is not to be interpreted to "imply automatic promotion or to preclude earlier promotion." Under section 7 of Executive Order No. 10988 the management officials of the Board retain the right, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, to maintain the efficiency of the Government operations entrusted to them and to determine the methods and means by which such operations are to be conducted. The Board adopted the 5-week rule based on considerations of efficient personnel operation. Adoption thereof was consistent with the authority retained under section 7 *supra* and, therefore, the matter of validity of the rule does not appear properly a subject of arbitration. See 50 Comp. Gen. 708 (1971).

The action of the Board in setting the effective date of Mr. Greco's promotion was an exercise of its discretion and was in accordance with stated agency policy. Accordingly, the general rule that promotion may not be made retroactively effective is for application, there being no indication of administrative error.

### [ B-172761 ]

#### **Bids—Omissions—Prices in Bid**

The failure to submit a price for one of four military installations at which delivery is to be made of coveralls solicited under an invitation that requested individual prices on the quantities specified for each installation is not a clerical

oversight that may be waived as a minor irregularity pursuant to paragraph 2-405 of the Armed Services Procurement Regulation, and the omitted price may not be inserted on the basis the single price quoted for the other three installations applies to the entire quantity solicited because the bidder had checked the block captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none" in the bid form, nor may the nonresponsive bid be considered for partial award. As an award of the whole contract is in the best interests of the Government, it may be made to the responsive and responsible bidder offering the low aggregate bid whose unit net price for the entire procurement is reasonable although slightly higher than that of the nonresponsive bidder.

**To the Director, Defense Supply Agency, June 21, 1971:**

Reference is made to letter dated April 26, 1971, your reference DSAH-G, with enclosures, from the Assistant Counsel, requesting a decision whether under invitation for bids No. DSA100-71-B-0987, the bid of the Kings Point Mfg. Co., Inc., may be corrected to show a bid price for an unpriced destination item when such correction will result in displacement of the apparent low bidder. Receipt is also acknowledged of supplemental reports dated June 1 and 4, 1971, from the Assistant Counsel.

The invitation, issued on March 11, 1971, by the Defense Personnel Support Center (DPSC), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, solicited bids for the manufacture and delivery f.o.b. destination of 46,700 pairs of coveralls, flying, man's, CWU-27/P, sage green, high temperature, resistant, polyamide. The destination points were Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; Atlanta, Georgia; Memphis, Tennessee; and Ogden, Utah. While the invitation covered a total quantity of 46,700 pairs of coveralls, individual prices were required to be submitted on the basis of specified quantities designated for each of the four military installations as set forth on DPSC Forms 369-1 and 369-2, the invitation bidding sheets. The invitation did not require bidders to bid on all destinations.

At the bottom of DPSC Form 369-2 there appears the statement:

The offeror agrees that the minimum and maximum quantities specified above as acceptable for award are the only quantity limitations applicable to this procurement, except as stated below:

Following that statement, Kings Point checked block No. 2 captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none." Below such block the further statement appears:

Failure to indicate separate minimum and maximum quantities will be deemed an offer to accept an award for the total of the quantities bid upon for *each* item of supply or destination or any part thereof.

Six bids were received and opened on March 31, 1971. Mason & Hughes, Inc., submitted the apparent overall low unit price bid of \$35.94, less prompt discount of 1.95 percent for the entire quantity of 46,700 coveralls, all or none. Kings Point Mfg. Co., Inc., bid on all destinations except Mechanicsburg. Opposite each destination bid

upon, it inserted a unit price of \$36.45. Kings Point has requested that its original bid be corrected to show for the Mechanicsburg destination a unit price of \$36.45, the same price quoted by it for each of the other three destinations. If Kings Point is to be permitted to correct its bid by inserting the price of \$36.45 for the Mechanicsburg destination, then it would become the low bidder as follows: \$36.45 for the entire quantity, which price was timely reduced in telegram dated March 31, 1971, by \$0.81, or to \$35.64 per unit, less prompt payment discount of 2 percent. The contracting office has recommended that Kings Point should not be permitted to correct its bid and that the "all or none" bid of Mason & Hughes, Inc., be accepted as the lowest overall bid on all four destinations.

In its letter of April 12, 1971, to DPSC, Kings Point states that "the failure to type in the \$36.45 price proximate to the Mechanicsburg line is a clerical oversight constituting a minor irregularity." The corporation has requested that the price of \$36.45 be inserted in its original bid opposite the Mechanicsburg destination and that its bid, as corrected, and as modified by its telegram of March 31, 1971, be considered for award.

Kings Point contends that by checking the second block on DPSC Form 369-2, captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none," it could only receive an award on the entire advertised 46,700 units and for a lesser quantity only if the Government unilaterally reduced the quantity "to be awarded." The corporation maintains that since its only quoted price of \$36.45 must be read in conjunction with the "all or none" limitation it placed thereon, the Government must evaluate its bid as obviously having offered the entire bid quantity at a single price.

We cannot accept Kings Point's interpretation. If it was Kings Point's intention at the time of bidding to also bid on the Mechanicsburg destination, it should have inserted a bid price opposite that destination.

On page 1 of the invitation, under the section entitled "OFFER," the bidder "offers and agrees \* \* \* to furnish any or all items upon which prices are offered, at the price set opposite each item." Since Kings Point failed to submit a price for the Mechanicsburg destination, we cannot say that it would be obligated to deliver 1,180 pairs of coveralls to that destination at the unit bid price quoted for the three other destinations. Such failure to quote a price constitutes a material deviation which may not be waived under the authority of paragraph 2-405 of the Armed Services Procurement Regulation. 41 Comp. Gen. 412 (1961) ; 46 *id.* 434 (1966).



Further, since a price was not inserted for the Mechanicsburg item, the bid is not responsive to that item. In 38 Comp. Gen. 819, 821 (1959), it was stated:

*It is probable that the majority of unresponsive bids are due to oversight or error, such as the failure to quote a price, to sign the bid, to furnish a bid bond, to submit required samples or data, or the submission of the wrong sample, incomplete data, or statements the actual meaning of which was not intended, etc. An unresponsive bid does not constitute an offer which may properly be accepted, and to permit a bidder to make his bid responsive by changing, adding to, or deleting a material part of the bid on the basis of an error alleged after the opening would be tantamount to permitting a bidder to submit a new bid. It is our opinion that an allegation of error is proper for consideration only in cases where the bid is responsive to the invitation and is otherwise proper for acceptance. [Italic supplied.]*

See, also, 49 Comp. Gen. 749, 752 (1970). In view thereof, the failure to quote a price for the Mechanicsburg item may not be corrected as an error in bid.

In its letter of May 20, 1971, Kings Point states that if its bid cannot be corrected to show a bid price for 1,180 units covered by the Mechanicsburg destination, our Office should consider an alternative approach to acceptance of its bid. Kings Point alleges that it would be in the interest of the Government to award 45,520 units to it and to cancel the balance of 1,180 units; that a comparison of its aggregate net total bid price of \$1,589,886.12 for 45,520 units and Mason & Hughes' aggregate net total bid price of \$1,645,669.24 for the entire total quantity of 46,700 units shows a difference of \$14,200.88; and that on the basis of a total price of \$14,200.88 for 1,180 units, the unit price would be \$47.27, which it states is approximately 35 percent more than Kings Point's unit price of \$35.64 and Mason & Hughes' unit price of \$35.94. Kings Point contends that the Government has a right to make the type of award suggested by it pursuant to paragraph 10(a) of the Solicitation Instructions and Conditions which provides that "The contract will be awarded to that responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the Government, price and other factors considered."

In regard to Kings Point's contention that by awarding the entire total quantity to Mason & Hughes the Government will be paying \$47.27 each for the 1,180 units covered by the Mechanicsburg destination, the contracting officer states that the method by which Kings Point arrives at a difference of approximately 35 percent is by aggregating the difference in price of \$14,200.88 over 1,180 units rather than the total quantity of 46,700 units; that having applied the difference in price to 1,180 units, Kings Point concludes that the Government would be purchasing these 1,180 units at an exorbitant price of \$47.27 per unit; and that the Government will not be paying a price of \$47.27 each, as alleged by Kings Point, but that it will be paying a

price of \$35.23917 per unit net for the entire procurement quantity of 46,700 units, if purchased from Mason & Hughes.

The contracting officer contends the unilateral "bargain hunting" by the Government, as suggested by Kings Point, would seriously affect the rights of the bidders and would impair the integrity of the bidding system. It is pointed out by the contracting officer that the Government needs the total quantity of 46,700 units; that the difference between the net unit prices quoted by Kings Point and Mason & Hughes is only \$0.31197; that he considers the unit price quoted by Mason & Hughes to be reasonable; and that in determining reasonableness, only the unit prices quoted by Kings Point and Mason & Hughes should be compared. In support of his recommendation that the "all or none" bid of Mason & Hughes be accepted, the contracting officer has cited our decisions of July 26 and September 8, 1961, B-146213, where we stated that it is proper to make an award on an "all or none" bid, which bid is the only one to provide full coverage on all items in the solicitation, *where* the price is considered reasonable in the circumstances.

Our decision, B-146213, cited by the contracting officer, involved an invitation in response to which four "all or none" bids were received, bidder No. 1 bidding on item 1, bidder No. 2 (Foremost) bidding on items 1 and 2, bidder No. 3 bidding on items 1, 2 and 3, and bidder No. 4 (Regis) bidding on items 1 through 4. The contracting officer in that case determined that the circumstances warranted cancellation of the invitation. However, our Office concluded that cogent or compelling reasons for cancellation were not present; that the original invitation should be reinstated; and that the award should be made to bidder No. 4 (Regis). In our decision of July 26, 1961, B-146213, we stated as follows:

The basis for the contracting officer's cancellation and readvertisement was that it could not be established clearly that an award to Regis would be in the best interests of the Government in view of Foremost's offer some \$6,200 lower on the first two items. However, while Foremost offered those two items at a lower cost, there were not unqualified bids on items 3 and 4 that could have been combined with the bid of Foremost on items 1 and 2 to result in a combination of prices that would have been less than the over-all price quoted by Regis. The only bidder that offered to furnish the Government everything it desired to obtain in the procurement was Regis. While a partial award on items 1 and 2 could have been made to Foremost at a lower unit cost, the obvious purpose of the invitation was to consummate an award or awards for the entire procurement. Since Regis was the only bidder permitting that result to be accomplished, the contracting officer only had to satisfy himself that the prices quoted by Regis were reasonable. Regis has stated that the unit prices it quoted were considerably below the prices paid on the previous procurement and were in line or below prices being paid by military installations within the state. Apparently, this is not denied by the procuring facility. Therefore, since Regis was the only bidder conforming to all of the Government's needs, we believe that the contracting officer had only to ascertain by a comparison with other procurements whether the prices quoted by it were reasonable in the circumstances.

In addition, in the September 8, 1961, decision, we stated as follows:

\* \* \* However, when, as in this case, there is no other combination of bids for all the items that would result in a lower price than the aggregate bidder's price and the latter is not shown to be unreasonable, we see no reason why award should not be made on the over-all basis. To do otherwise would prejudice the interests of the bidder who offered to furnish the Government all of its needs and who in so doing had disclosed its prices to the competition. \* \* \*

We believe in the general proposition that the Government advertises to secure its needs at the best possible prices and that award of the whole contract, when in the best interests of the Government, should be made to a responsive and responsible bidder offering a low aggregate bid, even though that bid may be higher on certain items than another bid. It also is our opinion that the fact that a partial award may be made at a price lower for certain items than the price for those items in an "all or none" bid which is low in the overall does not *per se* justify a determination that the "all or none" bid price is unreasonable, nor does it otherwise by itself qualify as a cogent or compelling reason for cancellation and readvertisement of some of the items.

The record indicates none of the bidders submitted an unqualified bid on all four destinations which could be combined with the bid of Kings Point on three of the four destinations, namely, Atlanta, Memphis and Ogden. The contracting officer has stated that the Government needs delivery of the coveralls to all four destinations. We agree with the contracting officer that in determining whether an exorbitant price would be paid for the coveralls if the "all or none" bid of Mason & Hughes were to be accepted, the *unit price* quoted by that firm would be the proper basis to be used. Since there is a difference of only \$0.31197 between the net unit prices quoted by Mason & Hughes and Kings Point, we believe that there is no basis for concluding that the unit price quoted by Mason & Hughes is unreasonable. In this connection, it is reported that in the last 2 years, the award price for coveralls ranged from a high of \$46.82 to a low of \$41.28 for comparable quantities, both low and high prices being paid to Kings Point.

Accordingly, the bid of Kings Point Mfg. Co., Inc., may not be considered for award.

[ B-149270 ]

### **Appropriations—No Year—Authorization v. Appropriation Act**

Notwithstanding section 101 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 authorized the appropriation of funds without fiscal year limitation for the purpose of adjusting the effective interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, the Congress having in section 509 of the Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1971, which provided the funds to implement the enabling act, restricted the availability of the funds appropriated by the act to the current fiscal year unless otherwise ex-

pressly provided, the "no-year" provision in the authorization act is not incorporated in the appropriation act so as to meet the requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718, and, therefore, the funds appropriated for the interest adjustment payments by the Federal home loan banks are not available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971.

### **Appropriations—Obligation—Section 1311, Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1955—Loans—Interest Adjustment**

In the implementation of the program authorized by section 101 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 for the adjustment of interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, and for which funds were appropriated on a fiscal year basis, an obligation within the meaning of section 1311 of the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1955, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 200, will come into being at the time member institutions request commitments for allowance funds from the Federal home loan bank of which they are a member. However, so as not to nullify the fiscal year limitation, the expiration of the commitment should occur at the end of a reasonable period. Moreover, the home loan bank records constitute evidence of the obligation, unused commitments will become deobligated and may not be reobligated if the period of obligation has expired, and the certifications required by 31 U.S.C. 200(c) are not to be made by persons below the level of chief accounting officer.

### **To the Chairman, Federal Home Loan Bank Board, June 23, 1971:**

Reference is made to your letters of May 19 and June 14, 1971, requesting our decision concerning several questions that have arisen in connection with the administration of the program authorized by section 101 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970, Public Law 91-351, approved July 24, 1970, 84 Stat. 450.

Section 101 provides as follows:

Sec. 101. (a) There is authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$250,000,000, without fiscal year limitation, to be used by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board for disbursement to Federal home loan banks for the purpose of adjusting the effective interest charged by such banks on short-term and long-term borrowing to promote an orderly flow of funds into residential construction. The disbursement of sums appropriated hereunder shall be made under such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Board to assure that such sums are used to assist in the provision of housing for low- and middle-income families, and that such families share fully in the benefits resulting from the disbursement of such sums. No member of a Federal home loan bank shall use funds the interest charges on which have been adjusted pursuant to the provisions of this section to make any loan, if—

(1) the effective rate of interest on such loan exceeds the effective rate of interest on such funds payable by such member by a percentile amount which is in excess of such amount as the Board determines to be appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this section; or

(2) the principal obligation of any such loan which is secured by a mortgage on a residential structure exceeds the dollar limitations on the maximum mortgage amount, in effect on the date the mortgage was originated, which would be applicable if the mortgage was insured by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 203(b) or 207 of the National Housing Act.

(b) Not more than 20 per centum of the sums appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall be disbursed in any one Federal home loan bank district.

Funds to finance the program were provided to the Federal Home Loan Bank Board in title IV of the Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1971, Public Law 91-556, approved December 17, 1970, 84 Stat. 1461, which contains the following appropriation:

For payments to Federal home loan banks for the purpose of adjusting the effective interest rates charged by such banks, as authorized by section 101 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970, \$85,000,000.

The first question presented for our decision is whether the above-mentioned \$85 million appropriation is available for obligation after June 30, 1971.

Relative to such matter there is for consideration section 7 of the act of August 24, 1912, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 718, which provides that—

No specific or indefinite appropriation made subsequent to August 24, 1912, in any regular annual appropriation Act shall be construed to be permanent or available continuously without reference to a fiscal year unless it belongs to one of the following four classes: "Rivers and harbors," "lighthouses," "public buildings," and "pay of the Navy and Marine Corps," \* \* \* or unless it is made in terms expressly providing that it shall continue available beyond the fiscal year for which the appropriation Act in which it is contained makes provision.

Also there is for consideration section 509 of the here-involved appropriation act which provides that—

No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

As pointed out in your letter we have stated that in the absence of legislative history to the contrary, appropriation language specifically referring to an authorization act which provides that appropriations made pursuant thereto shall remain available for longer than a fiscal year operates to incorporate the provisions of the authorizing act into the provisions of the appropriation. We have held that such incorporation by reference is sufficient to overcome the implication of fiscal year availability deriving from the enacting clause of a regular annual appropriation act and serves to meet the requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718. See 45 Comp. Gen. 236 (1965) and 508 (1966).

You urge that such reference to the authorization act in the appropriation language also serves to meet the requirement of section 509 of the appropriation act quoted above.

While we have found nothing in the legislative history of section 509 or of similar language contained in various other appropriation acts, which precisely describes the intent of such language, it seems evident that the purpose thereof is to overcome the effect of our decisions, such as those referred to above, regarding the requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718. See the discussion of this matter in House Report No. 1040, 88th Congress, pp. 55-56, which apparently gave rise to the general practice of including provisions similar to section 509 in appropriation acts. In other words the effect of such language is to require the act making the appropriation to expressly provide (rather than by incorporation by reference) for availability longer than 1 year if the enacting clause is to be overcome as to any specific appropriation contained

therein. Otherwise, the use of such language in an appropriation act would appear to serve little if any purpose.

Aside from the effect of section 509, we believe the legislative history of this particular appropriation supports the view that the Congress intended that the appropriation not be available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971. Prior to the enactment of the authorization act, the President submitted an estimate for an appropriation of \$250 million, such appropriation to be effective only upon the enactment of the then pending authorization or similar legislation. The Senate Committee on Appropriations, in favorably reporting the then pending appropriation bill recommended inclusion of this item together with language making such sum "available until expended" and in such form the bill was passed by the Senate.

Before the bill came out of conference the authorization act was enacted, and the committee of conference recommended agreement on language to reduce the amount to \$85 million. Also, the language which it recommended contained no provision making such sum available until expended. Concerning such action, the statement of the managers on the part of the House, printed with the conference report in House Report No. 1345, explains that the recommended language—

Appropriates \$85,000,000 for interest adjustment payments to Federal home loan banks instead of \$250,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The amount provides funds for the first year of this new program. A request for additional funds can be considered when there is demonstrated need for additional funding and specific plans are developed.

As indicated above, in view of such explanation and the omission of Senate-approved language that specifically would have made the appropriation available until expended it is our belief that the Congress when it adopted the conference recommendation did not intend that this appropriation be available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971.

You also ask when, under this appropriation and the regulations issued pursuant to section 101 of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970, does there come into being with respect to the appropriation an obligation within the meaning of section 1311 of the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1955, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 200. Your letter suggests three possible answers. First, you ask whether such obligations consist of—

The outstanding commitments made by Federal Home Loan Banks to member institutions under paragraph (b) of section 527.4 of the regulations? If so, may the "documentary evidence" required by subsection (a) of the obligation statute and the "records" required by subsection (c) of that statute consist of the records of the Federal Home Loan Banks respecting such commitments, and may the Federal Home Loan Bank Board designate officers or employees of said Banks as officials to make the certifications required by subsection (c) of the obligation statute?

It is our understanding that under the program authorized by section 101, referred to in the regulations, 12 CFR 527, as the "Housing Opportunity Allowance Program," funds provided therefor are allocated by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board in accordance with a formula established therein to the 12 Federal Home Loan Banks. Based, in general, on a formula involving the amount of outstanding mortgages on single-family dwellings held by them, member institutions request commitments for allowance funds from the district bank of which they are members.

Section 527.4 of the regulations referred to above reads, in part, as follows:

§ 527.4 Credits to member institutions.

(a) General. Each member institution having a commitment for allowance funds as provided in paragraph (b) of this section will, to the extent of such commitment, receive from the Bank of which it is a member a credit against interest due on advances in an amount equal to the total amount of allowances which the member institution has properly credited on qualifying loans as provided in § 527.3.

(b) Commitments for allowance funds. Any member institution may request in writing a commitment for allowance funds from the Bank of which it is a member. Commitments will be granted by such Bank, on such basis and for such time periods as the Bank may deem advisable, until the Bank's allocation of funds is exhausted.

(c) Procedure. Each member institution which has paid one or more allowances during a month shall, by the 20th day of the succeeding month, submit a report to the Bank of which it is a member, pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section. Such member shall deduct, from any subsequent bill for interest due on outstanding advances from the Bank, an amount equal to the allowances so reported, remitting only the net amount to the Bank.

As indicated above, your letter sets forth two additional alternatives, however, you state that the Board presently is operating on the basis that an obligation meeting the requirements of 31 U.S.C. 200(a)(5) comes into being when commitments are made by the Federal Home Loan Banks to member institutions under paragraph (b) of section 527.4 of the regulations quoted above.

With respect to grants or subsidies 31 U.S.C. 200 provides that—

(a) \* \* \* no amount shall be recorded as an obligation of the Government of the United States unless it is supported by documentary evidence of—

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) a grant or subsidy payable (i) from appropriations made for payment of or contributions toward, sums required to be paid in specific amounts fixed by law or in accord with formulae prescribed by law, or (ii) pursuant to agreement authorized by, or plans approved in accord with and authorized by, law; or

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) Report by agency heads in connection with requests for proposed appropriations.

Hereafter, in connection with the submission of all requests for proposed appropriations to the Bureau of the Budget, the head of each Federal agency shall report that any statement of obligations furnished therewith consists of valid obligations as defined in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Same; certifications and records; retention for audit; prohibition against redelegation of responsibility.

Each report made pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be supported by certifications of the officials designated by the head of the agency,

and such certifications shall be supported by records evidencing the amounts which are reported therein as having been obligated. Such certifications and records shall be retained in the agency in such form as to facilitate audit and reconciliation for such period as may be necessary for such purposes. The officials designated by the head of the agency to make certifications may not redelegate the responsibility.

An examination of the sample commitment forms issued by the Federal Home Loan Banks to member institutions disclose that the provisions thereof are not uniform. While the terms of some of the commitments could be construed as being firm and unconditional, others apparently could be revoked or withdrawn at least to the extent that the member institution had not committed itself to specific borrowers. Also, the forms do not establish a date as to when the commitment if not utilized will expire.

However, in your letter of June 14, 1971, you enclosed a copy of a draft letter which your General Counsel has prepared for use by the District Banks. While that draft letter would unconditionally commit a specific number of loans to a member institution, it too makes no provision for a cutoff date. Nevertheless, your letter indicates that you would have no objection to including a cutoff date in the commitment letter if it is believed to be necessary. Since the funds here involved are fiscal year funds it would appear a commitment issued to a member institution without any provision for its expiration, could, in effect, nullify the fiscal year limitation on the availability of the funds.

Accordingly, if provision is made in the commitment letter that such commitment will expire at the end of a reasonable specified period of time, it is our view that such commitment letter would meet the obligation requirements of 31 U.S.C. 200(a)(5) and the records of the Federal Home Loan Banks respecting such commitments may be considered as constituting the documentary evidence of such obligations as required by said subsection (a). To the extent, of course, that a member institution has not executed loans as of the cutoff date specified in the commitment letter, the amount of the unused commitment will become deobligated and such amount may not be reobligated if the period for obligation has expired.

Also, while we agree that the Federal Home Loan Bank Board may designate officers or employees of the Federal Home Loan Banks to make the certifications required by 31 U.S.C. 200(c), such persons should not be below the level of the chief accounting officer. In this connection, your attention is invited to page 18 of the Conference Report on the Supplemental Appropriation Bill, 1955, House Report No. 2663, 83d Congress, wherein it is stated that—

As to subsection (c) it is the intention of the committee of conference that the officials designated by the head of [an] agency to make certifications of obligations shall be those officials having overall responsibility for the recording of obligations as distinguished from those engaged in detailed recording operations and in no event should the designation be below the level of the chief accounting officer of a major bureau, service, or constituent organizational unit.



## [ B-164786 ]

**Postal Service, United States—Appropriations—Transferred From Post Office Department—Status**

Although the utilization by the Postal Service of obligated and unobligated appropriations available to the Post Office Department on July 1, 1970, the effective date of the transition of its functions to the Postal Service is permitted under 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2), unobligated balances for fiscal year 1970 and prior years that had reverted to the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 701 would require an act of Congress to be made available to the Postal Service for the liquidation of valid obligations. However, 1971 appropriations need not be included in any reappropriation of funds since they had not expired for obligation or reverted to the Treasury. Notwithstanding 39 U.S.C. 1005(e) requires the Postal Service to assume the obligation to pay for annual leave that accrued to employees before and after the transition, since such leave is not chargeable to the unexpended balances of prior year appropriations transferred to the Service, the Federal Government pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2) is liable for the payments.

**To the Postmaster General, June 28, 1971:**

Reference is made to letter of June 2, 1971, from Assistant Postmaster General J. W. Hargrove, requesting our concurrence in certain guidelines relating to the transition of the Post Office Department to the Postal Service on July 1, 1971, pursuant to the Postal Reorganization Act, Public Law 91-375, approved August 12, 1970.

With respect to such transition section 2002(a)(2) of Title 39, United States Code, as enacted by the Postal Reorganization Act, provides that—

(2) All liabilities attributable to operations of the former Post Office Department shall remain liabilities of the Government of the United States, except that upon commencement of operations of the Postal Service, the unexpended balances of appropriations made to, held or used by, or available to the former Post Office Department and all liabilities chargeable thereto shall become assets and liabilities, respectively, of the Postal Service.

and section 1005(e) of such Title 39 provides that—

Sick and annual leave, and compensatory time of officers and employees of the Postal Service, whether accrued prior to or after commencement of operations of the Postal Service, shall be obligations of the Postal Service under the provisions of this chapter.

It is reported that as of June 30, 1971, the Post Office Department will have an unfunded liability for employees' accrued annual leave in the estimated amount of \$368 million.

In a memorandum dated May 28, 1971, a copy of which was furnished us, your General Counsel states that section 2002(a)(2), quoted above, establishes the rule that unfunded liabilities remain with the United States, while funded liabilities are transferred to the Postal Service. This, he states, is true notwithstanding section 1005(e), also quoted above, relating to obligations for accrued annual and sick leave, in that such provision was placed in the Postal Reorganization Act in order to reassure postal employees that their accumulated leave

would be honored and reflects no judgment as to how such liability would be funded.

The General Counsel notes, however, that his position is not shared by the Office of Management and Budget in that the fiscal year 1972 Budget Appendix, at page 845, states—

At the beginning of 1972 the Postal Service will carry a liability of \$368,500 thousand from the former Post Office Department for earned and unused annual leave of postal employees. It is anticipated that this liability will be funded over a period of years through the rate-making process.

With this exception, the 1972 budget provides for full financing and places the Postal Service in a financial position to meet its obligations and commitments in a timely manner.

It is his opinion that the position taken by the Office of Management and Budget is untenable in that there is no justification for any "exception" to the unfunded liability role contained in section 2002 (a) (2) and it is quite unreasonable for future ratepayers to have to pay for past accumulations of annual leave. He then concludes that unless the accrued annual leave can be funded at the time the Postal Service commences operations, it cannot lawfully be transferred to or assumed by the Postal Service.

Section 1 (a) of the act of July 25, 1956, 70 Stat. 647, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 701 (a), provides as follows:

(a) The account for each appropriation available for obligation for a definite period of time shall be closed as follows:

(1) On June 30 of the second full fiscal year following the fiscal year or years for which the appropriation is available for obligation, the obligated balance shall be transferred to an appropriation account of the agency or subdivision thereof responsible for the liquidation of the obligations, in which account shall be merged the amounts so transferred from all appropriation accounts for the same general purposes; and

(2) Upon the expiration of the period of availability for obligation, the unobligated balance shall be withdrawn and, if the appropriation was derived in whole or in part from the general fund, shall revert to such fund, but if the appropriation was derived solely from a special or trust fund, shall revert, unless otherwise provide by law, to the fund from which derived: *Provided*, That when it is determined necessary by the head of the agency concerned that a portion of the unobligated balance withdrawn is required to liquidate obligations and effect adjustments, such portion of the unobligated balance may be restored to the appropriate accounts.

Since the obligated balances of such prior year appropriations can be used only to liquidate such prior year obligations and since the unobligated balances thereof have reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, and thus are not available to the Post Office Department except as such amounts may be needed to liquidate such prior year obligations, the unobligated balances may not be withdrawn from the Treasury except pursuant to an appropriation made by law. See Article I, section 9, clause 7, of the Constitution of the United States. Consequently, and since section 2002 (a) (2) does not in specific terms appropriate to the Postal Service the unexpended unobligated balances of fiscal year 1970 and prior year appropriations made to the Post Office Department and returned to the general fund of the Treasury

as required by law, it may not be construed as having done so in view of section 9 of the act of June 30, 1906, 34 Stat. 764, 31 U.S.C. 627, which provides that no act of Congress shall be construed to make an appropriation out of the Treasury of the United States "Unless such act shall, in specific terms, declare an appropriation to be made." See 13 Comp. Gen. 77 (1933). The Postal Service, however, may exercise the right to have such unobligated balances restored to the extent provided in the cited act of July 25, 1956, for the liquidation of valid obligations against prior year appropriations. Annual leave becomes a valid obligation against the appropriations current at the time it is taken.

In view of the fact that under the provisions of section 15(a) of the Postal Reorganization Act, 39 U.S.C. Prec. 101 note, the Board of Governors could have provided that the Postal Service begin operations during the course of a fiscal year as well as at the beginning of a fiscal year, it seems evident that the language contained in section 2002(a)(2) was primarily intended to permit the Postal Service to utilize the obligated and unobligated portion of appropriations that on the date of transition were otherwise available to the Post Office Department in order that the Postal Service might liquidate the obligations incurred against such appropriations and that it might finance its operations to the end of the fiscal year from the unobligated portion.

It is our view that the express provisions of section 1005(e) require that the Postal Service assume the obligation to pay for annual leave accruing both before and after commencement of operations of the Postal Service notwithstanding that such section does not provide any funding therefor. Since the liability for accrued annual leave is not chargeable to unexpended balances of prior year appropriations transferred to the Postal Service, such liability remains a liability of the Federal Government as specifically provided in section 2002(a)(2), quoted above.

What is said above is applicable to the unobligated balances of fiscal year 1970 and prior appropriations. The annual appropriations for fiscal year 1971, however, had not expired for obligation nor been returned to the Treasury at the time the Postal Reorganization Act was enacted and it is not necessary that a current appropriation be reappropriated in order to be made available, under authority of a later law, for purposes other than those specified when the appropriation act was passed. See 23 Comp. Dec. 167, 171 (1916). It is our view, therefore, that both the obligated and unobligated balances of the annual appropriations for the fiscal year 1971 will be available to the Postal Service.

If, as indicated by your General Counsel, it is felt that it would be quite unreasonable for future ratepayers to have to pay for past accumulations of annual leave as indicated in the 1972 Budget Appendix, an

alternative would be to request appropriations therefor pursuant to section 2004 of the revised Title 39 which reads as follows:

Such sums as are necessary to insure a sound financial transition for the Postal Service and a rate policy consistent with chapter 36 of this title are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Fund without regard to fiscal year limitation.

We express no opinion as to whether there is a real need to fund the accrued liability for annual leave nor, if a need therefor exists, the manner in which it should be funded.

### [ B-172593 ]

#### **Bids—Two-Step Procurement—Technical Proposals—Deficiencies—Minor Deviations**

The minor revision of an unpriced technical proposal, the first-step of a two-step procurement for a retrieval system, that had initially been found unacceptable was not prejudicial to other bidders for the Government under the procedure contemplated by paragraph 2-503.1 ASPR, is free to discuss a submitted proposal with an offeror if clarification or additional information will bring a proposal to an acceptable status since the two-step procedure extends the benefits of advertising to procurements previously negotiated, and while the second-step of the procedure is conducted in accordance with formal advertising, the first-step contemplates maximizing competition. Therefore, the low bidder originally incorrectly placed in the unacceptable category, having submitted an acceptable technical proposal and confirmed the extremely low price bid may properly be awarded a contract.

#### **To SI Handling Systems, Incorporated, June 28, 1971:**

Further reference is made to your letter dated April 12, 1971, protesting against the award of a contract under letter request for technical proposals (Step 1), issued October 7, 1970, and invitation for bids No. DAAG36-71-B-0038 (Step 2), issued February 10, 1971, by the Department of the Army, New Cumberland Army Depot, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Step 1 was issued October 7, 1970, and invited unpriced technical proposals for services and material for the manufacture and operational installation of an Automated Bin Material Storage/Retrieval System at New Cumberland Army Depot in accordance with purchase description specifications. Of the six technical proposals received, four were found to be "reasonably susceptible of being made acceptable by additional information clarifying or supplementing, but not basically changing the proposals as submitted" in accordance with Armed Services Procurement Regulation (ASPR) 2-503.1(e) (ii). The four offerors in the "reasonably susceptible" category were advised by telephone and confirmatory letters on January 25, 1971, to submit clarifications of their proposals by January 29, 1971. On February 2, 1971, the Committee for review concluded that these four proposals were acceptable. The two unacceptable offerors, Page Airways, Incorporated (PAI), and Mobility Systems, Incorporated, were notified of this determination by letter dated February 3, 1971.

The record further shows that PAI, by telegram dated February 8,

1971, requested an opportunity to discuss the rejection of their proposal. The contracting officer advised PAI by letter dated February 11, 1971, that they could present a written rebuttal to the rejection of their proposal to determine if a meeting should be held. Meanwhile, Step 2 was issued on February 10, 1971, to the four "acceptable" firms, specifying a bid opening date of March 12, 1971. On February 18, 1971, PAI submitted clarifying technical information contending their technical proposal needed only minor revision to be considered acceptable. After review of this information the Evaluation Committee determined that the clarifications submitted were minor in nature and on February 25, 1971, advised PAI that a meeting would be appropriate. On February 26, 1971, a meeting was held with PAI at the conclusion of which it was determined that the Government had inappropriately rejected PAI's technical proposal because the information submitted was sufficient to declare PAI's technical proposal as acceptable. Thus, on February 26, 1971, an invitation was issued to PAI and the bid opening date was extended by amendment, to March 23, 1971. The Commerce Business Daily in Issue PSA-5268 dated March 4, 1971, publicized this action. On March 23, 1971, the bid opening results showed the two lowest bidders to be:

- a. Page Airways, Inc.—\$689,745
- b. SI Handling Systems, Inc.—\$1,361,591

In view of the wide variance in prices between the low bidder and the other bidders, on March 24, 1971, the contracting officer in accordance with ASPR 2-406.3(e)(1)(i) requested verification of PAI's bid and requested reassurance from the Evaluation Committee that the PAI technical proposal did meet the requirements of the Purchase Description. As a result of the Evaluation Committee's reply, PAI was advised on April 6, 1971, of the areas of the purchase description which the Committee felt had the greatest potential for error and PAI was requested to consider particularly these areas in verification of their bid. By letter dated April 12, 1971, PAI verified their bid price as submitted and stated that they "are prepared to stand by their figures and specifications as offered." Thereafter, a preaward survey by DCASD, Rochester, recommended award to PAI.

You contend that the PAI proposal should not have been accepted since initially only four bidders were approved to bid under Step 2 as published in the Commerce Business Daily. You, also, request confirmation that PAI is offering a system which fully complies with the specification. In this regard, you point out that the other bidders are within 12 percent of each other and are "all constantly engaged in the material handling business."

It is administratively reported that the Technical Committee evaluated all technical proposals in accordance with the Government requirements as set forth in the Purchase Description. No deviation in

the specification was permitted. The Technical Review Committee compared the system proposed by PAI with those of the other bidders and found several areas of engineering innovations in the PAI proposal which nevertheless result in fully meeting the requirements of the purchase description but apparently permit the lower bid price. Concerning comparability, it is stated that this can only be answered by the fact that the Government has determined that the technical proposal submitted by PAI as well as those of the other bidders meet the requirements of the purchase description.

As you know, after submission of a proposal under "Step 1" of a "Two-Step procurement," the Government is free to discuss a submitted proposal with the offeror if clarification or additional information could bring the proposal to an acceptable status. This is in accordance with the procedures set out in the letter request for technical proposals (Step 1), and is contemplated in ASPR 2-503.1.

The Two-Step procedure was initiated to extend the benefits of advertising to procurements which previously were negotiated. While the second step of this procedure is conducted in accordance with the rules of formal advertising (ASPR 2-503.2), the first step, in furtherance of the goal of maximized competition, contemplates the qualification of as many sources as possible within the given time limits. The purpose of limiting the consideration to a specified time is primarily for the Government's benefit. 40 Comp. Gen. 35; *id.* 40 In the instant case, the Evaluation Committee advised the Procurement Division on February 26, 1971, regarding the PAI technical proposal that:

1. \* \* \* it becomes increasingly apparent that the original decision to reject their proposal without discussion or clarification was inappropriate. Those items originally deemed objectionable have all been resolved. The original proposal as presented should have qualified Page Airways for the "reasonably acceptable" category. However, the misinterpretation of the severity of the discrepancies contained therein led us to the original rejection.

2. Those clarifications submitted were of a minor supplemental nature and did not comprise a basic or substantial change to the original proposal. \* \* \*

3. Upon a full and comprehensive review of the clarifications submitted together with the basic technical proposal, there is no doubt that Page Airways qualifies for the acceptable category. \* \* \*

We can see no prejudice to the other four bidders by the action taken in regard to the PAI proposal. In view of the above, showing that PAI was incorrectly placed in the unacceptable category originally, we will not object to the award to the low bidder. See 43 Comp. Gen. 255 (1963).

Accordingly your protest is denied.

[ B-169738 ]

### **Pay—Drill—Training Assemblies—Increases—Retroactive Adjustment Entitlement**

A member of the Army National Guard who was on active duty for training on April 15, 1970, whether or not fulfilling his REP 63, a term meaning an obli-

gation incurred under the Reserve Enlistment Program of 1968 to serve on active duty training for a period of at least 4 months and to serve in a Reserve component until the sixth anniversary of the date of enlistment, is not entitled to a retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills attended subsequent to December 31, 1969, and before April 15, 1970, since both under the pertinent provisions of the Career Compensation Act and National Guard regulations a member of the National Guard on full-time training duty cannot be in a "drill pay status" while on active duty, and the acts of December 16, 1967, and April 15, 1970 only authorize a retroactive adjustment in basic pay under the 1970 rates if the member was in a "drill pay status" on April 15, 1970.

**To Major C. A. Ancharski, Department of the Army, June 29, 1971:**

We refer further to your letter of December 24, 1970 (file reference AHBDB-F), forwarded here by letter dated March 25, 1971, from the Office of the Comptroller of the Army, requesting a decision as to the propriety of paying 15 members of the Army National Guard, who were on active duty for training on April 15, 1970, a retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills attended subsequent to December 31, 1969, under the circumstances disclosed. Your request has been assigned control No. DO-A-1117 by the Department of Defense Military Pay and Allowance Committee.

In view of the Department of the Army Messages 161819Z and 291649Z, April 1970, cited by you, you say that doubt exists as to the validity of making payment on the supplemental payroll since the messages contain certain restrictions to the effect that "A member who was on Active Duty for Training on April 15, 1970, but who was not in a Drill Pay Status on that date, is not entitled to any retroactive adjustment for drills performed after December 31, 1969." You express further doubt in the matter in the light of our decision of May 22, 1970, 49 Comp. Gen. 796.

You specifically ask:

a. Is a member of the Army National Guard considered to be in both an "Active Duty for Training Status" (by reason of fulfilling his REP 63 obligation) and a "Drill Pay Status" on April 15, 1970, thereby, enabling him to qualify for payment of the retroactive portion of the Uniformed Services Pay Increase of 1970, for Inactive Duty Training Drills attended subsequent to December 31, 1969?

b. Is a member of the Army National Guard considered to be in both an "Active Duty for Training Status" (other than fulfilling his REP 63 obligation) and a "Drill Pay Status" on April 15, 1970, thereby enabling him to qualify for payment of the retroactive portion of the Uniformed Services Pay Increase of 1970, for Inactive Duty Training Drills attended subsequent to December 31, 1969?

In our decision of May 22, 1970, 49 Comp. Gen. 796, which you cite, we were asked the following questions:

1. Is a member who was in a "drill pay status" on April 15, 1970, and who performed active duty or active duty for training prior to that date but subsequent to December 31, 1969, entitled to a retroactive increase in basic pay for such active duty or active duty for training?

2. Is a member who was on active duty or active duty for training on April 15, 1970 but who was not in a drill pay status on that date entitled to a retroactive increase for drills performed after December 31, 1969 but prior to April 15, 1970?

After considering the applicable provisions of law, its legislative history and implementing regulations, we held in the decision of May 22, 1970, that:

\* \* \* in the absence of some other specific statutory authority, there is no basis to authorize a retroactive increase in basic pay, other than that received under section 206 of title 37, for a member of the National Guard or a member of a Reserve component who was in a "drill pay status" on April 15, 1970, but who performed active duty prior to that date (January 1 to April 14, 1970) in a status different from that prescribed in section 206 of title 37. Accordingly, question 1 is answered in the negative. For the same reasons, and since the member in question 2 was not in a "drill pay status" on April 15, 1970, that question is also answered in the negative.

In asking whether a member may be considered in an "active duty for training status" and in a "drill pay status" on the same day, namely, April 15, 1970, your questions seem to be premised on whether a member's "active duty for training status" on April 15, 1970, is affected in any way "(by reason of fulfilling [or not fulfilling] his REP 63 obligation)."

The term "REP 63 obligation" is explained in paragraph 1-3d (1) (d), Army Regulation 135-90, as meaning an obligation incurred under the Reserve Enlistment Program of 1963 (REP 63) (10 U.S.C. 511(d)) to serve on active duty for training for a period of at least 4 months and to serve in a Reserve component until the sixth anniversary of the date of enlistment. "Active duty for training" is defined in Army Regulation 310-25, as follows:

Full-time duty in the active military service of the United States, with or without pay for training purposes. This includes the initial period of training required by 10 U.S.C. 511(d) for enlisted members of the Army National Guard of the United States and Army Reserve and, with respect to the Army Reserve, annual training, attendance at Army service schools, participation in small arms competition, short tours of active duty for special projects, attendance at military conferences and participation in a command post exercise, field training exercise, or maneuver, under 10 U.S.C. 672(b), 672(d) or 683.

It appears from the enclosures forwarded with your request for decision that on April 15, 1970, the members of the National Guard here involved were participating in the 4-month minimum active duty for training established by the act of September 3, 1963, Public Law 88-110, 77 Stat. 134, 10 U.S.C. 511, which you refer to as "Active Duty for Training Status \* \* \* (REP 63 Training)."

That 1963 law established a 6-year Reserve Enlistment Program ("REP 63") of training, under which the member enlists in the Ready Reserve of any Reserve component of the Armed Forces or National Guard to serve as a member of an organized unit thereof in accordance with 10 U.S.C. 270 or 32 U.S.C. 502 and in addition performs "active duty for training with an armed force for not less than four consecutive months." Section 502 of Title 32, U.S. Code, establishes the program of inactive duty training drills and training at encamp-



ments, maneuvers, outdoor target practice, or other exercises, at least 15 days each year, for members of the National Guard.

The term "active duty" is defined in 10 U.S.C. 101, 32 U.S.C. 101, and 37 U.S.C. 101, as including "full-time training duty." It is clear that active duty for training pursuant to the 1963 law as well as other active duty for training is full-time training duty and is "active duty" within the meaning of Titles 10, 32, and 37, United States Code.

Section 501(a) of the Career Compensation Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 825, 37 U.S.C. 301(a) (1958 ed.), the pertinent part of which is now codified in 37 U.S.C. 206, contained the provisions of law governing pay ("drill pay") for inactive duty training of members of the National Guard, and section 201(e) of the 1949 law (now codified in 37 U.S.C. 204(e)) contained the provisions of law authorizing the payment of "basic pay" (active duty pay) authorized in section 201(a) thereof to members of the National Guard when on active duty, full-time training duty, and when such members are entitled by law to receive the same pay as that authorized for members of the Regular components of the armed services. Subsection 501(e) of the 1949 pay law, 37 U.S.C. 301(e), provided that the provisions of subsection 501(a) thereof "shall not apply when such members are entitled to receive basic pay as provided for in title II of this Act," which included section 201 of that law governing "basic pay."

The pertinent provisions of the Career Compensation Act as now codified in Title 37, U.S. Code, contain similar provisions. Section 204 thereof authorizes the payment of basic pay provided in 37 U.S.C. 203 to members of the National Guard when participating in full-time training or training duty with pay and subsection 206(a) provides for the payment of "drill pay" to members of the National Guard for inactive duty training who are "not entitled to basic pay under section 204 of this title." In addition section 309 authorizes additional pay for performance of administrative duty to certain officers of the National Guard, but provides that such section "does not apply to an officer who is entitled to basic pay under section 204 of this title."

Under those provisions the members concerned can not be in an active duty status and an inactive duty training status at the same time. It necessarily follows, therefore, that a member of the National Guard on full-time training duty ("active duty for training with an armed force for not less than four consecutive months") under the provisions of Public Law 88-110, 10 U.S.C. 511, or otherwise in an active duty for training status, can not be in a "drill pay status" under the provisions of the Career Compensation Act, as codified in Title 37, U.S. Code, while on active duty for training.

National Guard Regulation 350-1 defines "inactive duty training"

and "active duty for training" as meaning (quoting in part paragraphs 3a and c) :

a. *Inactive duty training.* Training or duty, other than full time, performed by units of the Army National Guard and members thereof, in State status, with or without pay, pursuant to section 502 of title 32, United States Code, and section 1002 of title 37, United States Code. \* \* \*

\* \* \*  
c. *Active duty for training.* Training under section 672(d) of title 10, United States Code in Federal status, i.e., Reserve Enlistment Program (REP 1963) and ferrying of aircraft.

Under the provisions of paragraph 10, National Guard Regulation 37-104-2, currently in effect, a federally recognized officer, warrant officer, or enlisted member of the National Guard is considered to be in an inactive duty training status except, as here material, when he is "(1) On active duty in a Federal status" and "(2) On active duty for training or on full-time training or duty." Prior regulations on this subject provided in paragraph 10, National Guard Regulation No. 58, dated December 5, 1956, that a federally recognized officer, warrant officer or enlisted man is in an "armory drill pay status" except "(1) When he is entitled to Federal pay for active duty for training." See also paragraph 26, NGR 58 dated March 30, 1961, and paragraph 30, NGR 58, dated February 15, 1964.

It will be seen that the National Guard regulations differentiate between a member on "active duty for training" and a member in a "drill pay status"—inactive duty training status. In other words, the regulations recognized that a member cannot hold those two statuses concurrently on the same day for pay purposes.

Section 7 of the act of December 16, 1967, 81 Stat. 654, 37 U.S.C. 203 note, in conjunction with section 5 of the act of April 15, 1970, 84 Stat. 197, 5 U.S.C. 5332 note, and implementing regulations, expressly authorized a retroactive adjustment in basic pay under the 1970 rates for a member of the National Guard or a member of a Reserve component of the uniformed service who was in a "drill pay status" on "April 15, 1970." The member is either in a "drill pay status" or in an "active duty for training status" on April 15, 1970. He may not, as your questions suggest, be considered as being in both statuses on the same day for retroactive pay purposes.

In the light of the above, and since, as you state, the members in question were in an "active duty for training status" on April 15, 1970—not in a "drill pay status"—their situation falls within question 2 and the answer to that question in our decision of May 22, 1970.

Accordingly, as to the personnel here involved, there is no basis for authorizing a retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills performed subsequent to December 31, 1969, and before April 15, 1970. The vouchers and supporting papers will be retained here.

July 1, 1970-June 30, 1971

# TABLE OF DECISION NUMBERS

	Page		Page
B-48917, Oct. 28, 1970.....	823	B-169172, Sept. 16, 1970.....	184
B-124074, Aug. 17, 1970.....	86	B-169174, Mar. 25, 1971.....	661
B-125037, May 24, 1971.....	813	B-169278, B-170840, Mar. 30, 1971.....	691
B-131587, Sept. 18, 1970.....	191	B-169414, July 7, 1970.....	11
B-131836, Nov. 5, 1970.....	384	B-169429, Aug. 21, 1970.....	117
B-133972, Sept. 2, 1970.....	154	B-169452, Nov. 19, 1970.....	389
B-139703, Aug. 25, 1970.....	128	B-169535, July 2, 1970.....	1
B-141529, Sept. 8, 1970.....	169	B-169537, Sept. 3, 1970.....	104
B-144605, Sept. 30, 1970.....	229	B-169542, July 16, 1970.....	39
B-145804, Nov. 8, 1970.....	329	B-169627, Mar. 1, 1971.....	601
B-149270, June 23, 1971.....	857	B-169633, Aug. 20, 1970.....	114
B-151107, Jan. 7, 1971.....	476	B-169645, July 24, 1970.....	59
B-153007, Feb. 16, 1971.....	556	B-169669, Aug. 18, 1970.....	94
B-153485, Sept. 24, 1970.....	205	B-169738, June 29, 1971.....	868
B-154218, Oct. 13, 1970.....	269	B-169760, Aug. 13, 1970.....	83
B-155375, Oct. 21, 1970.....	305	B-169813, July 6, Sept. 15, 1970.....	8, 177
B-158097, Mar. 12, 1971.....	615	B-169823, July 15, 1970.....	36
B-159429, Jan. 13, Apr. 12, 1971.....	486, 727	B-169835, Sept. 18, 1970.....	193
B-159715, Feb. 11, 1971.....	563	B-169843, Dec. 7, 1970.....	382
B-160778, Aug. 19, 1970.....	103	B-169874, Nov. 5, 1970.....	337
B-163422, Apr. 8, 1971.....	708	B-169913, Mar. 26, 1971.....	670
B-163654, Jan. 26, 1971.....	519	B-169977, July 23, 1970.....	50
B-163798, Oct. 26, 1970.....	320	B-169992, July 24, 1970.....	63
B-164186, Dec. 22, 1970.....	425	B-169998, July 20, 1970.....	44
B-164281, Feb. 22, 1971.....	586	B-170013, July 22, 1970.....	48
B-164515, Oct. 9, 1970, Jan. 15, Mar. 19, 1971.....	266	B-170035, July 23, 1970.....	54
	495, 535	B-170038, Mar. 29, 1971.....	679
B-164788, Oct. 7, Dec. 18, 1970, June 23, 1971.....	253, 414, 563	B-170039, Dec. 30, 1970.....	456
B-164786, B-171785, Apr. 15, 1971.....	731	B-170074, Aug. 25, 1970.....	137
B-165571, Feb. 19, 1971.....	581	B-170081, Sept. 1, 1970.....	151
B-165816, Nov. 3, 1970.....	330	B-170093, Sept. 28, 1970.....	222
B-166180, Jan. 6, 1971.....	473	B-170098, Aug. 11, 1970.....	80
B-166802, Dec. 28, 1970.....	434	B-170104, Sept. 30, 1970.....	232
B-166772, Oct. 7, 1970.....	255	B-170112, Sept. 15, 1970.....	180
B-167006, Apr. 8, 1971.....	712	B-170174, Jan. 22, 1971.....	500
B-167198, Aug. 19, 1970.....	108	B-170176, July 20, 1970.....	46
B-167259, B-167003, B-167848, Aug. 19, 1970.....	110	B-170178, Nov. 12, 1970.....	367
B-167647, Oct. 21, 1970.....	308	B-170182, July 24, 1970.....	66
B-167926, July 15, 1970.....	28	B-170198, Sept. 2, 1970.....	156
B-168024, Nov. 9, 1970.....	343	B-170206, Mar. 29, 1971.....	686
B-168090, Aug. 18, 1970.....	93	B-170210, Sept. 9, 1970.....	174
B-168296, Oct. 22, 1970.....	314	B-170212, Aug. 11, 1970.....	82
B-168541, Apr. 23, 1971.....	748	B-170213, Aug. 17, 1970.....	89
B-168626, July 30, 1970.....	67	B-170215, Aug. 18, 1970.....	98
B-168629, Sept. 3, 1970.....	163	B-170217, July 17, 1970.....	42
B-168633, Dec. 29, 1970.....	447	B-170241, Feb. 16, 1971.....	559
B-168691, July 13, 1970.....	22	B-170247, Aug. 5, 1970.....	716
B-168712, Sept. 24, 1970.....	209	B-170261, Sept. 24, 1970.....	215
B-168729, Aug. 8, 1970.....	71	B-170266, Dec. 30, 1970.....	464
B-169077, Oct. 13, 1970.....	271	B-170268, Nov. 9, 1970.....	346
B-169094, Sept. 4, 1970.....	167	B-170269, Dec. 21, 1970.....	418
B-169140, July 8, 1970.....	16	B-170287, Dec. 4, 1970.....	379
B-169148, Oct. 6, 1970.....	246	B-170303, Oct. 13, 1970.....	270

	Page		Page
B-170306, Jan. 27, 1971.....	527	B-171840, Mar. 28, 1971.....	674
B-170352, Sept. 4, 1970.....	173	B-171843, Apr. 26, 1971.....	753
B-170368, Aug. 18, 1970.....	99	B-171844, Dec. 30, 1970.....	470
B-170388, Oct. 15, 1970.....	281	B-171379, May 19, 1971.....	810
B-170395, Sept. 30, 1970.....	236	B-171384, Mar. 12, 1971.....	619
B-170398, Feb. 17, 1971.....	565	B-171391, Feb. 26, 1971.....	592
B-170407, Aug. 24, 1970.....	125	B-171449, Jan. 21, 1971.....	497
B-170421, Mar. 30, 1971.....	694	B-171457, Feb. 25, 1971.....	589
B-170448, Aug. 25, 1970.....	140	B-171458, Dec. 22, 1970.....	431
B-170481, Sept. 29, 1970.....	226	B-171459, Jan. 22, 1971.....	515
B-170459, Sept. 24, 1970.....	220	B-171488, Jan. 14, 1971.....	491
B-170470, Aug. 28, 1970.....	148	B-171537, Mar. 26, 1971.....	677
B-170498, Mar. 30, 1971.....	699	B-171548, B-171912, Apr. 30, 1971.....	759
B-170513, Oct. 8, 1970.....	263	B-171589, Mar. 23, 1971.....	644
B-170525, Oct. 1, 1970.....	239	B-171596, Apr. 16, 1971.....	736
B-170527, Nov. 13, 1970.....	360	B-171597, Feb. 9, 1971.....	542
B-170531, Oct. 23, 1970.....	317	B-171609, May 12, 1971.....	788
B-170536, Mar. 15, 1971.....	627	B-171616, Jan. 29, 1971.....	534
B-170544, Jan. 22, 1971.....	806	B-171622, May 13, 1971.....	799
B-170584, Feb. 9, 1971.....	540	B-171643, Mar. 23, 1971.....	647
B-170593, Oct. 15, 1970.....	291	B-171651, Feb. 17, 1971.....	579
B-170595, Oct. 16, 1970.....	295	B-171663, Apr. 19, 1971.....	739
B-170635, Oct. 19, 1970.....	302	B-171669 (1), Mar. 24, 1971.....	648
B-170655, Dec. 15, 1970.....	388	B-171669 (3), Mar. 24, 1971.....	655
B-170675, Nov. 4, 1970.....	332	B-171700, Apr. 30, 1971.....	764
B-170682, Mar. 19, 1971.....	637	B-171727, May 24, 1971.....	815
B-170725, Nov. 17, 1970.....	366	B-171767, Mar. 8, 1971.....	607
B-170751, Sept. 23, 1970.....	202	B-171781, Apr. 5, 1971.....	703
B-170787, Oct. 16, 1970.....	300	B-171813, Feb. 19, 1971.....	583
B-170773, Dec. 14, 1970.....	386	B-171827, May 13, 1971.....	803
B-170794, Oct. 7, 1970.....	258	B-171893, June 4, 1971.....	830
B-170836, B-170940, Nov. 2, 1970.....	325	B-171915, Mar. 10, 1971.....	613
B-170922, Nov. 20, 1970.....	374	B-171936, Apr. 8, 1971.....	718
B-170938, Feb. 10, 1971.....	545	B-171938, Apr. 15, 1971.....	733
B-170962, Jan. 11, 1971.....	480	B-171983, Apr. 9, 1971.....	723
B-170964, Apr. 14, 1971.....	729	B-172006, May 13, 1971.....	807
B-170966, Nov. 30, 1970.....	376	B-172031, June 9, 1971.....	847
B-170969, Dec. 28, 1970.....	441	B-172046, Mar. 15, 1971.....	634
B-170999, Nov. 10, 1970.....	355	B-172069, May 10, 1971.....	767
B-171017, Jan. 28, 1971.....	530	B-172125, May 11, 1971.....	783
B-171019, Apr. 26, 1971.....	750	B-172138, Apr. 15, 1971.....	735
B-171052, Dec. 11, 1970.....	383	B-172174, May 12, 1971.....	794
B-171058, Apr. 6, 1971.....	705	B-172189, May 27, 1971.....	822
B-171076, Dec. 16, 1970.....	390	B-172266, May 10, 1971.....	769
B-171088, Apr. 9, 1971.....	720	B-172359, Apr. 9, 1971.....	726
B-171184, Jan. 22, 1971.....	508	B-172508, May 12, 1971.....	798
B-171149, May 11, 1971.....	773	B-172567, May 24, 1971.....	820
B-171177, May 11, 1971.....	777	B-172581, June 7, 1971.....	844
B-171232, Feb. 10, 1971.....	547	B-172593, June 28, 1971.....	866
B-171252, Jan. 22, 1971.....	513	B-172671, June 14, 1971.....	850
B-171273, Dec. 22, 1970.....	428	B-172684, June 4, 1971.....	839
B-171279, Feb. 3, 1971.....	537	B-172761, June 21, 1971.....	852
B-171321, Mar. 9, 1971.....	610	B-172832, June 2, 1971.....	827
B-171326, Mar. 5, 1971.....	604	B-172855, June 2, 1971.....	829

# LIST OF CLAIMANTS, ETC.

	Page		Page
Adams, D. F.....	366	Defense Supply Agency, Director.....	28,
Administrative Office of the United States			209, 239, 382, 852
Courts, Director.....	589	District of Columbia Court of General Ses-	
Admiral Systems Corp.....	11	sions, Chief Judge.....	205
Agency for International Development, Ad-		District of Columbia, Mayor-Commissioner..	66, 712
ministrator.....	89	Dreher, D. L.....	425
Ahrnsbrak, Clyde E.....	476	Dynamic Enterprises, Inc.....	686
Alcock, N. C.....	125,	Electronic Space Systems Corp.....	830
	148, 180, 258, 314, 428, 491, 508, 607, 677	Economic Sciences Corp. Inc.....	59
American Air Filter Co., Inc.....	8, 177	Edwards, Ralph, Sportswear, Inc.....	48
American Moving and Storage Co. of Marin...	753	Electronic Space Systems Corp.....	830
American-Standard, Inc.....	163	Electronics and Manufacturing Corp.....	357
Anchorski, C. A.....	868	Fairchild Hiller Corp.....	1
Apache Flooring Co.....	627	Federal City College.....	712
Architect of the Capitol, Acting.....	323	Federal Home Loan Bank Board, Chairman..	857
Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin & Kahn.....	54	Ferriell, Howard, & Sons, Inc.....	42
Arlington County, Virginia.....	343	Filtron Co., Inc.....	281
Arnold & Porter.....	346	Firestone Tire and Rubber Co.....	140
Associated Dairy Products Co.....	94	Flanagan, James O.....	647
Attorney General.....	128	Flor, Frederick H., Jr.....	723
Avantek, Inc.....	697	Flynn, H. D.....	174
Baker, C. W.....	279	Foremost-McKesson, Inc.....	759
Balboa Structural Industries, Inc.....	530	Fowler, J. E.....	827
Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corp.....	271, 464	Gadsby & Hannah.....	788
Barnes, James H.....	425	Galton Iron Works & Mfg. Co.....	691
Bath Iron Works Corp.....	418	Gardner-Zemke Co.....	798
Batterman Construction Co.....	583	Geiger, George J.....	180
Belcher, Phyllis A.....	148	General Dynamics Corp.....	739, 815
Bemis Co., Inc.....	534	General Services Administration, Adminis-	
Black, Asa C.....	604	trator.....	302, 355, 839
Blose, William B.....	508	General Steamship Corp., Ltd.....	601
Boltin, Roy E.....	767	Gilson, I. E.....	829
Borup, Emil J.....	674	Griffin, G. W.....	46
Brenningstall, N. R.....	269	Henderson Engineering Co., Inc.....	137
British Insulated Callender's Cables Limited..	151	Hoffman, D. W.....	767
Bruno-New York Industries Corp.....	448	Hoover Reporting Co., Inc.....	513
Burkholder, J. J.....	156	Industrial Technological Associates, Inc.....	16
Burriss, J. W.....	137	Informatics, Inc.....	54
Caballero, Victor.....	428	Institute of Scrap Iron and Steel.....	167
Canal Zone, Governor of the.....	644	Interax, Inc.....	215
Cann, Robert E.....	677	Internal Revenue Service, Commissioner.....	442
Canoga Electronics Corp.....	456	Irish, Jack A.....	89
Canty, Henrietta.....	581	ITT Data Services.....	619
Carres, Mary D.....	173	Jaynes, David W.....	99
Cartwright, Vernon A.....	314	Jet Avion Corp.....	184
Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp.....	777	Johnson, Orbra Ray.....	174
Chapel of the Astronauts, Inc.....	63	Jones, Robert A.....	226
Chinn, Lewis E.....	491	Kaiser Steel Corp.....	71
Choziolek, H. Edward.....	733	Kaminski, Thaddeus H.....	236
Collins, J.....	723	Kearns, W. Paul, III.....	778
Computer Network Corp.....	222, 355	Kennedy Electric Co., Inc.....	807
Computer Sciences Corp.....	619	Kennedy, W. E.....	44
Consultants and Designers, Inc.....	637	Kings Point Mfg. Co., Inc.....	852
Cromer, D. W.....	99	Labutti, Norman M.....	156
Cuneo, Gilbert A.....	337	Lane, Thomas M.....	108
Data-Control Systems, Inc.....	114	Lang and Epstein.....	302

	Page		Page
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Associate Administrator.....	750	Row, Maurice F.....	374
Lawson, Richard K.....	44	Royal Services, Inc.....	325, 648
Leavenworth, Frank L.....	442	Russell & Associates-Fresno, Ltd.....	613
Leavenworth, Marie.....	442	Sadur, Pelland & Braude.....	807
Leber, W. P.....	644	San ColMar Industries, Inc.....	39
Lewis, Beecher F.....	674	Schlirmer's Landscape Nursery, Inc.....	202
LFE Corp.....	565	Schoonmaker, A. G., Co., Inc.....	506
Lilleck, McHose, Wheat, Adams & Charles.....	613	Schullery, Robert J.....	108, 154
Limbaugh, Limbaugh & Russell.....	48	Secretary of Agriculture.....	110, 305, 519, 583
Litho Press, Inc.....	360, 769	Secretary of the Air Force.....	11, 76, 163, 184, 246, 360, 670, 708, 764, 783
Loffin, C.....	478	Secretary of the Army.....	8,
Longley Construction Co., Inc.....	76	67, 114, 215, 220, 281, 291, 317, 343, 376, 386, 432,	
Loral Electronic Systems.....	540	480, 537, 747, 586, 604, 655, 661, 705, 748, 798,	
Maritime Administration, Administrator.....	167	799, 810	
Masters, Gardner & Associates.....	369	Secretary of Commerce.....	86
McNair Investment Co., d/b/a McNair Farms.....	305	Secretary of Defense.....	80,
Melsenheimer, John L.....	579	191, 229, 232, 320, 486, 515, 718, 727, 813	
Military Base Management of New Jersey.....	679	Secretary of the Interior.....	151, 169, 691, 822
Millar & Fallin.....	648	Secretary of the Navy.....	16,
Miller, Groezinger, Pettit & Evers.....	750	42, 83, 202, 263, 271, 325, 329, 330, 384, 379, 388,	
Moore, Joseph.....	803	527, 556, 615, 619, 739, 753	
Morrow, Douglas O.....	803	Secretary of Transportation.....	59, 308, 357, 794
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Acting Administrator.....	542	Secretary of the Treasury.....	703
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Administrator.....	1, 63	Selective Service System, Director.....	726
National Credit Union Administration, Administrator.....	545	Sellers, Conner & Cuneo.....	464, 630
National Guard Bureau, Chief.....	847	Selman, Richard J.....	22
National Maritime Union of America, National Vice President.....	93	Sharratt, S. H.....	22
National Water Commission, Executive Director.....	736	Sher and Harris.....	844
Naumann, David W.....	36	Shinn, R.....	579
Navy Regional Finance Center, Commanding Officer.....	36	SI Handling Systems, Inc.....	866
New York Medical College.....	471	Singer-General Precision, Inc.....	788
Northeast Construction Co.....	844	Solan, John M.....	729
Northwest Packing Co.....	384	Southwest Engineering Co., Inc.....	103
Nowak, Edward L.....	374	Spectronics Corp.....	209
Oceanic Steamship Co.....	164	Springfield Building Maintenance, Inc.....	655
Office of Economic Opportunity, Director.....	117, 581	Stamford Metal Specialty Co., Inc.....	799
Oleynik, Vladimir.....	173	Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co.....	263
Olson, Robert N.....	125	Surplus Tire Sales.....	497
Orlow and Orlow.....	424	Swack, G. R.....	22
Otava, Kaarlo J.....	476	Switlik Parachute Co., Inc.....	500
Pacific Architects & Engineers, Inc.....	670	Sylvania Electronics Products, Inc.....	789
Pacific Shipwrights, Inc.....	67	Systems Research Laboratories, Inc.....	246
Page Communications, Engineers, Inc.....	391	Systems Technology, Inc.....	193
Peoples Cartage, Inc.....	694	Templeman, Robert E.....	258
Pepper, Hamilton & Scheetz.....	295	Terranova, Floyd F.....	610
Petrof Trading Co.....	382	Thompson Manufacturing Co., Inc.....	360
Postal Service Management Institute, Director.....	647	Trans World Airlines, Inc.....	592
Postmaster General.....	253, 255, 637, 720, 731, 735, 863	United States Civil Service Commission, Chairman.....	82, 98, 266, 300, 332, 415, 553, 635, 820, 850
Produce Factors Corp.....	494	Universal American Enterprises, Inc.....	670
Propper Manufacturing Co.....	239	Universal Industries, Inc.....	559
Public Printer.....	769	Urbanetics, Inc.....	117
Quillier Construction Co., Inc.....	634	Van Heertum, Bruce.....	425
Radcliff, Bobby J.....	473	Vanderburgh, Robert A. A.....	269
Raggio, Frank S.....	258	vom Baur, Coburn, Simmons & Turtle.....	418
Ray, I. L.....	729	Warren Furniture, Inc.....	733
Robertson, Joseph M.....	519	Washington Hilton.....	610
		Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.....	169
		Webster, George W.....	534
		Wheelabrator Corp., The.....	346
		Wilkins, Co., Inc.....	839
		Wile, John P.....	366

# LIST OF CLAIMANTS, ETC.

XVII

	Page		Page
Winder, C. R.....	226, 236	Yager, J. W.....	308
Witte and Witte.....	39	Yoh, H. L., Co.....	637
Wonson, Myles P., Jr.....	166	Young, Edward D.....	496
Wood-Ivey Systems Corp.....	50	Youngdale, J. R., Construction Co.....	76
Wood, William G.....	827	Zinger Construction Co., Inc.....	296

# TABLES OF STATUTES, ETC., CITED IN DECISIONS OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

## UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE

For use only as supplement to U.S. Code citations

	Page		Page
1925, Feb. 28, 43 Stat. 1063.....	735	1967, Sept. 28, 81 Stat. 231.....	305
1932, May 7, 47 Stat. 150.....	608	1967, Dec. 16, 81 Stat. 654.....	37
1934, June 4, 48 Stat. 836.....	795	1969, Nov. 26, 83 Stat. 255.....	306
1938, May 13, 52 Stat. 351.....	822	1969, Dec. 11, 83 Stat. 323.....	323
1938, June 23, 52 Stat. 973.....	256	1969, Dec. 24, 83 Stat. 408.....	131
1938, June 23, 52 Stat. 997.....	256	1969, Dec. 29, 83 Stat. 483.....	706
1938, June 25, 52 Stat. 1175.....	313	1969, Dec. 29, 83 Stat. 485.....	784
1938, June 25, 52 Stat. 1185.....	313	1970, Apr. 15, 84 Stat. 195.....	37
1948, June 29, 62 Stat. 1086.....	608	1970, June 29, 84 Stat. 333.....	785
1951, Sept. 28, 65 Stat. 363.....	824	1970, July 24, 84 Stat. 450.....	353
1953, Aug. 5, 67 Stat. 373.....	131	1970, Dec. 17, 84 Stat. 1461.....	353
1961, Sept. 21, 75 Stat. 543.....	821	1971, Jan. 2, 84 Stat. 1892.....	751
1966, Nov. 6, 80 Stat. 1324.....	160	1971, Jan. 2, 84 Stat. 1903.....	826
1966, Nov. 7, 80 Stat. 1433.....	717	1971, Jan. 11, 84 Stat. 2033.....	707
		1971, Jan. 11, 84 Stat. 2035.....	787

## UNITED STATES CODE

See, also, U.S. Statutes at Large

	Page		Page
5 U.S. Code Ch. 41.....	611	5 U.S. Code 5341(c).....	266, 495, 636
5 U.S. Code 59a (1958 ed.).....	482, 606	5 U.S. Code 5342(a).....	93
5 U.S. Code 59a(b) (1958 ed.).....	484	5 U.S. Code 5343.....	267
5 U.S. Code 62 (1958 ed.).....	738	5 U.S. Code 5344.....	267
5 U.S. Code 174a.....	528	5 U.S. Code 5314.....	491
5 U.S. Code 552.....	219	5 U.S. Code 5319.....	154
5 U.S. Code 554(b).....	522	5 U.S. Code 5523(b).....	91
5 U.S. Code 552 (1952 ed.).....	184	5 U.S. Code 5525.....	109
5 U.S. Code 767.....	493	5 U.S. Code 5531.....	48, 604
5 U.S. Code 1071 note.....	99	5 U.S. Code 5531(2).....	604
5 U.S. Code 1152(b).....	86	5 U.S. Code 5532.....	481
5 U.S. Code 2061 note.....	99	5 U.S. Code 5532(b).....	481, 605
5 U.S. Code 2101(1).....	330	5 U.S. Code 5532(c).....	481
5 U.S. Code 2104.....	739	5 U.S. Code 5532(c) (2).....	605
5 U.S. Code 2105.....	329, 739	5 U.S. Code 5533.....	324
5 U.S. Code 3333.....	155	5 U.S. Code 5534.....	48
5 U.S. Code 3501.....	481	5 U.S. Code 5537.....	604
5 U.S. Code 3581.....	173	5 U.S. Code 5542.....	520, 675, 704
5 U.S. Code 5332(b).....	173	5 U.S. Code 5542(b).....	524, 676
5 U.S. Code 5534.....	173	5 U.S. Code 5542(b) (2) (B).....	522
5 U.S. Code 5303.....	417	5 U.S. Code 5544.....	768
5 U.S. Code 5332.....	417, 848	5 U.S. Code 5544 (b) (2) (B) (iv).....	676
5 U.S. Code 5332 note.....	37, 100, 149, 173, 227, 516	5 U.S. Code 5546(b).....	524
5 U.S. Code 5334.....	254	5 U.S. Code 5564.....	377
5 U.S. Code 5334(a).....	253, 417	5 U.S. Code 5584.....	47, 329
5 U.S. Code 5334(b).....	416	5 U.S. Code 5595.....	48, 476
5 U.S. Code 5337.....	82	5 U.S. Code 5595(a) (2).....	727
5 U.S. Code 5338.....	253	5 U.S. Code 5596.....	582
5 U.S. Code 5341.....	67, 848	5 U.S. Code 5596(b) (1).....	238



	Page		Page
5 U.S. Code 5703	813	10 U.S. Code 1040	766
5 U.S. Code 5722	645	10 U.S. Code 1163(a)	229
5 U.S. Code 5723(b)	375	10 U.S. Code 1201	259, 315, 483, 509
5 U.S. Code 5724a	829	10 U.S. Code 1202	156, 482
5 U.S. Code 5724(a)(3)	830	10 U.S. Code 1203	157
5 U.S. Code 5724(l)	375	10 U.S. Code 1204	260
5 U.S. Code 5727(a)	375	10 U.S. Code 1208	310
5 U.S. Code 5911(e)	389	10 U.S. Code 1208(a)(1)	311
5 U.S. Code 5924	387	10 U.S. Code 1208(a)(2)	311
5 U.S. Code 6101	709	10 U.S. Code 1208(b)	311
5 U.S. Code 6101(a)(3)	711	10 U.S. Code 1210	482
5 U.S. Code 6101(b)(2)	675	10 U.S. Code 1210(e)	157
5 U.S. Code 6301	99, 735	10 U.S. Code 1211	677
5 U.S. Code 6303	481	10 U.S. Code 1211(a)	678
5 U.S. Code 6303(a)	821	10 U.S. Code 1211(a)(1)	679
5 U.S. Code 6323(c)	154	10 U.S. Code 1331	429
5 U.S. Code 7151	582	10 U.S. Code 1332	312
5 U.S. Code 7154	583	10 U.S. Code 1332(a)(1)	313
5 U.S. Code 7154(b)	583	10 U.S. Code 1333	311, 429
5 U.S. Code 7311	155	10 U.S. Code 1333(4)	313
5 U.S. Code 8101(12)	493	10 U.S. Code 1372	157, 260, 509
5 U.S. Code 8103	493	10 U.S. Code 1372(3)	509
5 U.S. Code 8105	492	10 U.S. Code 1372(4)	315, 510
5 U.S. Code 8106	492	10 U.S. Code 1374	511
5 U.S. Code 8107	492	10 U.S. Code 1374(a)	511
5 U.S. Code 8116	492	10 U.S. Code 1374(d)	511
5 U.S. Code 8116(a)	491	10 U.S. Code 1401	260, 429
5 U.S. Code 8301	259, 431	10 U.S. Code 1401a	232
5 U.S. Code 8301(a)	259	10 U.S. Code 1401a(b)	232
5 U.S. Code 8332(c)	81	10 U.S. Code 1401a(c)	232
5 U.S. Code 8332(e)	81	10 U.S. Code 1401a(d)	232, 259
5 U.S. Code 8332(j)	82	10 U.S. Code 1401a(e)	232
5 U.S. Code 8333(a)	81	10 U.S. Code 1402(a)	232
5 U.S. Code 8345(d)	81	10 U.S. Code 1402(b)	234
7 U.S. Code 71	521	10 U.S. Code 1402(c)	234
7 U.S. Code 87	521	10 U.S. Code 1402(d)	234
7 U.S. Code 301	712	10 U.S. Code 1405	312
7 U.S. Code 304	713	10 U.S. Code 1405(4)	312
7 U.S. Code 305	712	10 U.S. Code 1552	125, 183, 233, 719
7 U.S. Code 307	712	10 U.S. Code 1552(a)	719
7 U.S. Code 308	712	10 U.S. Code 1552(c)	183, 719
7 U.S. Code 450j	305	10 U.S. Code 2101	487, 784
7 U.S. Code 1621	521	10 U.S. Code 2101(3)	487
7 U.S. Code 1622	525	10 U.S. Code 2104	487, 784
7 U.S. Code 1627	521	10 U.S. Code 2104(b)(8)	488
10 U.S. Code Ch. 61	310	10 U.S. Code 2107	487, 727, 784
10 U.S. Code Ch. 67	81, 312, 430	10 U.S. Code 2107(a)	488, 728
10 U.S. Code 101	871	10 U.S. Code 2108(a)	488
10 U.S. Code Ch. 137	349	10 U.S. Code 2108(b)	488
10 U.S. Code 270	870	10 U.S. Code 2108(c)	487, 727
10 U.S. Code 333	155	10 U.S. Code 2109	785
10 U.S. Code 509	37, 517	10 U.S. Code 2109(b)(1)	785
10 U.S. Code 511	870	10 U.S. Code 2110(c)	785
10 U.S. Code 511(d)	870	10 U.S. Code 2111	487, 784
10 U.S. Code 676	429	10 U.S. Code 2304	112
10 U.S. Code 687(a)	230	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(2)	202, 282, 457
10 U.S. Code 687(b)	230	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(6)	670
10 U.S. Code 687(b)(1)	230	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(7)	210, 242
10 U.S. Code 701(b)	331	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(10)	19, 55, 69, 793
10 U.S. Code 701(f)	330	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(11)	115, 248, 740
10 U.S. Code 703(b)	765	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(14)	350
10 U.S. Code 832	811	10 U.S. Code 2304(a)(16)	777
10 U.S. Code 849	813	10 U.S. Code 2304(g)	8
10 U.S. Code 1002	587	20, 69, 112, 117, 186, 205, 219, 250, 457, 542, 548,	
10 U.S. Code 1035(e)	718	552, 671, 684	

	Page		Page
10 U.S. Code 2305.....	454	18 U.S. Code 3006A(e).....	130
10 U.S. Code 2305(a).....	543	18 U.S. Code 4244.....	130
10 U.S. Code 2305(b).....	544	19 U.S. Code 267.....	703
10 U.S. Code 2305(c).....	179, 385, 454, 470, 533, 635, 655	19 U.S. Code 1451.....	704
10 U.S. Code 2310(a).....	350	19 U.S. Code 1452.....	704
10 U.S. Code 2310(b).....	213, 350	20 U.S. Code 901.....	193
10 U.S. Code 2634.....	377, 616	20 U.S. Code 902.....	193
10 U.S. Code 2634(a).....	378	20 U.S. Code 907.....	193
10 U.S. Code 3916.....	260	21 U.S. Code 455(b).....	526
10 U.S. Code 3963(a).....	586	23 U.S. Code 120(g).....	795
10 U.S. Code 4308.....	787	25 U.S. Code 47.....	95
10 U.S. Code 4308(a) (8).....	786	26 U.S. Code 3111.....	555
10 U.S. Code 4312(b).....	786	26 U.S. Code 4261.....	750
10 U.S. Code 4313.....	786	28 U.S. Code 753(f).....	206
10 U.S. Code 4748.....	616	28 U.S. Code 2514.....	436
10 U.S. Code 5082.....	741	29 U.S. Code 159(b).....	598
10 U.S. Code 5149.....	23	31 U.S. Code 71.....	376
10 U.S. Code 5149(a).....	24	31 U.S. Code 71a.....	587, 607, 769
10 U.S. Code 5149(b).....	23	31 U.S. Code 74.....	823
10 U.S. Code 5149(c).....	24	31 U.S. Code 82a-1.....	732
10 U.S. Code 5579.....	279	31 U.S. Code 82d.....	823
10 U.S. Code 5579(d).....	279	31 U.S. Code 200.....	860
10 U.S. Code 6148(a).....	100	31 U.S. Code 200(a) (5).....	861
10 U.S. Code 6151.....	587	31 U.S. Code 200(c).....	862
10 U.S. Code 6157.....	616	31 U.S. Code 203.....	435, 471, 613
10 U.S. Code 8253(c).....	270	31 U.S. Code 237.....	607
10 U.S. Code 8309.....	510	31 U.S. Code 241.....	559
10 U.S. Code 8442.....	126	31 U.S. Code 484.....	161, 324, 546
10 U.S. Code 8447(b).....	126	31 U.S. Code 627.....	865
10 U.S. Code 8451(a).....	127	31 U.S. Code 628.....	750
10 U.S. Code 8911.....	677	31 U.S. Code 665(a).....	590
10 U.S. Code 8914.....	181, 270, 491	31 U.S. Code 686.....	556
10 U.S. Code 8916.....	261	31 U.S. Code 701(a).....	864
10 U.S. Code 8916(a).....	261	31 U.S. Code 712a.....	590
10 U.S. Code 8916(b).....	261	31 U.S. Code 718.....	859
10 U.S. Code 8921.....	259	31 U.S. Code 1176.....	826
10 U.S. Code 8921(a).....	260	32 U.S. Code 101.....	871
10 U.S. Code 8921(b).....	260	32 U.S. Code 502.....	870
10 U.S. Code 8961.....	678	32 U.S. Code 709.....	848
10 U.S. Code 8963.....	587, 678	32 U.S. Code 709 note.....	848
10 U.S. Code 8963(a).....	587, 678	32 U.S. Code 709(g).....	848
10 U.S. Code 8991.....	271	33 U.S. Code 701r-1(c).....	665
10 U.S. Code 9748.....	616	37 U.S. Code Ch. 7.....	336
12 U.S. Code 1755.....	546	37 U.S. Code Ch. 10.....	319
14 U.S. Code 291.....	309	37 U.S. Code 101.....	871
14 U.S. Code 292.....	310	37 U.S. Code 202.....	23
14 U.S. Code 293.....	310	37 U.S. Code 202(l).....	24
14 U.S. Code 353.....	310	37 U.S. Code 202(k).....	23
14 U.S. Code 354.....	310	37 U.S. Code 202(l).....	23
14 U.S. Code 355.....	310	37 U.S. Code 203.....	259, 871
14 U.S. Code 423.....	311	37 U.S. Code 203 note.....	101, 227, 516, 872
14 U.S. Code 511.....	335	37 U.S. Code 204(e).....	871
15 U.S. Code 1.....	651	37 U.S. Code 204 (g) (1).....	101
15 U.S. Code 12.....	651	37 U.S. Code 204(g) (2).....	101
15 U.S. Code 17.....	652	37 U.S. Code 204(l).....	100
15 U.S. Code 631.....	761	37 U.S. Code 206.....	814, 871
15 U.S. Code 637(b) (6).....	550	37 U.S. Code 206(a).....	815, 871
15 U.S. Code 637(b) (7).....	70	37 U.S. Code 253(c).....	318
15 U.S. Code Prec. 715.....	661	37 U.S. Code 301.....	426, 815
16 U.S. Code 1c.....	796	37 U.S. Code 301(a).....	814, 871
16 U.S. Code 452.....	161	37 U.S. Code 301(a) (1).....	814
16 U.S. Code 4601-4.....	161	37 U.S. Code 301(a) (12).....	814
18 U.S. Code 1918.....	155	37 U.S. Code 301(b).....	814
18 U.S. Code 3006A.....	130, 689	37 U.S. Code 301(c).....	814
18 U.S. Code 3006A(d).....	591	37 U.S. Code 301(e).....	871

## XXII TABLES OF STATUTES, ETC., CITED IN DECISIONS

	Page		Page
37 U.S. Code 301(f).....	814	40 U.S. Code 276(a).....	720
37 U.S. Code 308.....	518	40 U.S. Code 276a.....	103, 472, 634, 798, 808, 833
37 U.S. Code 308(a).....	37, 517	40 U.S. Code 803b.....	64
37 U.S. Code 308(f).....	38, 517	40 U.S. Code 471.....	112
37 U.S. Code 309.....	871	40 U.S. Code 471 note.....	123
37 U.S. Code 310(a).....	330	41 U.S. Code 10a.....	239, 700
37 U.S. Code 401.....	221	41 U.S. Code 10d.....	239, 700
37 U.S. Code 403.....	176	41 U.S. Code 11.....	590
37 U.S. Code 403(b).....	176	41 U.S. Code 15.....	435, 471
37 U.S. Code 403(d).....	176	41 U.S. Code 35 note.....	808
37 U.S. Code 404.....	85, 768, 775	41 U.S. Code 40.....	810
37 U.S. Code 404(a).....	725, 730, 805	41 U.S. Code 151 note (1962 ed.).....	124
37 U.S. Code 404(c).....	433	41 U.S. Code 252(c).....	585
37 U.S. Code 404(d) (3).....	336	41 U.S. Code 252(c) (4).....	638
37 U.S. Code 405.....	85, 337, 538	41 U.S. Code 253(b).....	585, 630
37 U.S. Code 406.....	368, 432, 557, 706	41 U.S. Code 254(b).....	578
37 U.S. Code 406(a).....	85, 221, 378	41 U.S. Code 257(a).....	578
37 U.S. Code 406(b).....	85, 378, 557	41 U.S. Code 321.....	106, 514
37 U.S. Code 406(c).....	85	41 U.S. Code 351.....	649
37 U.S. Code 406(e).....	83	41 U.S. Code 351 note.....	656, 721
37 U.S. Code 406(g).....	433	41 U.S. Code 353.....	652
37 U.S. Code 406(h).....	83, 377	42 U.S. Code 293.....	471
37 U.S. Code 406b.....	320, 334	42 U.S. Code 402.....	82
37 U.S. Code 407.....	319	42 U.S. Code 1962a note.....	737
37 U.S. Code 407(a) (1).....	580	42 U.S. Code 2473(b) (3).....	64
37 U.S. Code 409.....	318	42 U.S. Code 2701 note.....	98
37 U.S. Code 412.....	528	42 U.S. Code 2732.....	98
37 U.S. Code 427(b).....	335	42 U.S. Code 2733.....	98
37 U.S. Code 551.....	292	42 U.S. Code 2734(b).....	98
37 U.S. Code 551(2).....	292, 318	42 U.S. Code 2751.....	554
37 U.S. Code 552.....	150	42 U.S. Code 2754(8).....	554
37 U.S. Code 552(a).....	150	42 U.S. Code 3731(c).....	752
37 U.S. Code 552(b).....	150	42 U.S. Code 3731(d).....	751
37 U.S. Code 554.....	293, 317, 377	42 U.S. Code 4633.....	826
37 U.S. Code 554(a).....	318	43 U.S. Code 629g.....	823
37 U.S. Code 554(b).....	84, 292, 319	43 U.S. Code 1231.....	823
37 U.S. Code 554(d).....	292	43 U.S. Code 1234.....	823
37 U.S. Code 556(c).....	149	45 U.S. Code 151.....	596
37 U.S. Code 558.....	292	46 U.S. Code 741.....	170
37 U.S. Code 906.....	517	46 U.S. Code 742.....	171
39 U.S. Code Prec. 101 note.....	865	46 U.S. Code 752.....	170
39 U.S. Code 410.....	254	46 U.S. Code 864.....	168
39 U.S. Code 1003.....	254	46 U.S. Code 865.....	168
39 U.S. Code 1003 note.....	253, 415	46 U.S. Code 1111.....	168
39 U.S. Code 1005(e).....	863	46 U.S. Code 1114.....	168
39 U.S. Code 2002(a) (2).....	863	46 U.S. Code 1152.....	87
39 U.S. Code 2004.....	866	46 U.S. Code 1152 note.....	87
39 U.S. Code 2401.....	732	46 U.S. Code 1154.....	86
39 U.S. Code 2601(b).....	732	46 U.S. Code 1158.....	169
39 U.S. Code 3543(a).....	735	46 U.S. Code 1160(j).....	167
39 U.S. Code 3543(f).....	735	46 U.S. Code 1195.....	172
39 U.S. Code 4252.....	254	46 U.S. Code 1213.....	168
39 U.S. Code 5001.....	258	49 U.S. Code 1375(h).....	255
39 U.S. Code 5402(c).....	258	49 U.S. Code 1657.....	738
39 U.S. Code 6423.....	695	49 U.S. Code 1657(o).....	738
40 U.S. Code 34.....	612	49 U.S. Code 3731.....	751
40 U.S. Code 174j-1.....	323	50 U.S. Code 1431.....	599
40 U.S. Code 174j-4.....	324	50 U.S. Code 1435.....	599
40 U.S. Code 174j-7.....	323	50 U.S. Code App. 460(b) (4).....	728
40 U.S. Code 174k.....	323	50 U.S. Code App. 1012.....	294, 319
40 U.S. Code 174k(b).....	323	50 U.S. Code App. 1744.....	167

## CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

	Page		Page
Art. I, sec. 9, cl. 7.....	864	Art. 4, sec. 3, cl. 2.....	64

## PUBLISHED DECISIONS OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL

	Page		Page
1 Comp. Gen. 560.....	344	26 Comp. Gen. 676.....	544
2 Comp. Gen. 601.....	377	26 Comp. Gen. 720.....	738
4 Comp. Gen. 653.....	581	27 Comp. Gen. 171.....	558
4 Comp. Gen. 769.....	735	27 Comp. Gen. 547.....	738
5 Comp. Gen. 5.....	377	28 Comp. Gen. 57.....	310
5 Comp. Gen. 649.....	734	28 Comp. Gen. 341.....	648
5 Comp. Gen. 931.....	735	28 Comp. Gen. 662.....	585
9 Comp. Gen. 41.....	344	29 Comp. Gen. 120.....	344
10 Comp. Gen. 294.....	599	29 Comp. Gen. 419.....	538
10 Comp. Gen. 395.....	65	29 Comp. Gen. 437.....	608
11 Comp. Gen. 57.....	722	29 Comp. Gen. 526.....	646
11 Comp. Gen. 355.....	65	30 Comp. Gen. 82.....	83
13 Comp. Gen. 77.....	865	30 Comp. Gen. 179.....	734
14 Comp. Gen. 169.....	65	30 Comp. Gen. 356.....	93
16 Comp. Gen. 318.....	383	30 Comp. Gen. 363.....	281
16 Comp. Gen. 807.....	192	31 Comp. Gen. 166.....	254, 416
17 Comp. Gen. 554.....	44, 469	31 Comp. Gen. 238.....	775
17 Comp. Gen. 575.....	660	31 Comp. Gen. 320.....	254
17 Comp. Gen. 736.....	65	31 Comp. Gen. 405.....	344
18 Comp. Gen. 363.....	591	32 Comp. Gen. 104.....	510
18 Comp. Gen. 562.....	344	32 Comp. Gen. 154.....	318
18 Comp. Gen. 747.....	492	32 Comp. Gen. 242.....	719
19 Comp. Gen. 640.....	65	32 Comp. Gen. 358.....	824
20 Comp. Gen. 46.....	65	32 Comp. Gen. 367.....	318
20 Comp. Gen. 310.....	110	32 Comp. Gen. 451.....	318
20 Comp. Gen. 862.....	544	32 Comp. Gen. 567.....	318
21 Comp. Gen. 56.....	652	33 Comp. Gen. 98.....	806
21 Comp. Gen. 425.....	65	33 Comp. Gen. 394.....	441
21 Comp. Gen. 510.....	65	33 Comp. Gen. 434.....	749
22 Comp. Gen. 44.....	434	33 Comp. Gen. 524.....	214
22 Comp. Gen. 563.....	65	33 Comp. Gen. 549.....	533
22 Comp. Gen. 588.....	806	34 Comp. Gen. 7.....	153, 719
22 Comp. Gen. 1133.....	547	34 Comp. Gen. 45.....	438
23 Comp. Gen. 17.....	738	34 Comp. Gen. 380.....	720
23 Comp. Gen. 370.....	591	34 Comp. Gen. 398.....	344
23 Comp. Gen. 395.....	383	34 Comp. Gen. 415.....	221
23 Comp. Gen. 713.....	807	34 Comp. Gen. 436.....	176
23 Comp. Gen. 875.....	766	34 Comp. Gen. 549.....	730
23 Comp. Gen. 962.....	67, 333	34 Comp. Gen. 605.....	609
23 Comp. Gen. 989.....	440	34 Comp. Gen. 691.....	254
24 Comp. Gen. 39.....	67, 333	34 Comp. Gen. 708.....	67
24 Comp. Gen. 69.....	558	35 Comp. Gen. 149.....	441
24 Comp. Gen. 155.....	333	35 Comp. Gen. 161.....	514
24 Comp. Gen. 189.....	333	35 Comp. Gen. 241.....	184
24 Comp. Gen. 439.....	807	35 Comp. Gen. 311.....	344
24 Comp. Gen. 473.....	777	35 Comp. Gen. 399.....	294
24 Comp. Gen. 550.....	333	35 Comp. Gen. 436.....	324
24 Comp. Gen. 599.....	344	35 Comp. Gen. 547.....	730
24 Comp. Gen. 667.....	806	35 Comp. Gen. 581.....	318
25 Comp. Gen. 161.....	768	35 Comp. Gen. 615.....	324, 547
26 Comp. Gen. 49.....	469	35 Comp. Gen. 696.....	510
26 Comp. Gen. 212.....	333	36 Comp. Gen. 5.....	536
26 Comp. Gen. 322.....	647	36 Comp. Gen. 71.....	474
26 Comp. Gen. 368.....	253	36 Comp. Gen. 364.....	179
26 Comp. Gen. 484.....	99	36 Comp. Gen. 380.....	802
26 Comp. Gen. 488.....	646	36 Comp. Gen. 482.....	67
26 Comp. Gen. 530.....	253	36 Comp. Gen. 492.....	158, 510

	Page		Page
36 Comp. Gen. 649.....	768	41 Comp. Gen. 706.....	101
36 Comp. Gen. 705.....	11	41 Comp. Gen. 749.....	168, 509
36 Comp. Gen. 809.....	544	41 Comp. Gen. 788.....	454
37 Comp. Gen. 1.....	524	41 Comp. Gen. 807.....	327
37 Comp. Gen. 89.....	510	42 Comp. Gen. 1.....	356, 598
37 Comp. Gen. 110.....	11	42 Comp. Gen. 69.....	168
37 Comp. Gen. 126.....	775	42 Comp. Gen. 197.....	768
37 Comp. Gen. 210.....	498	42 Comp. Gen. 246.....	344
37 Comp. Gen. 251.....	76	42 Comp. Gen. 272.....	590
37 Comp. Gen. 300.....	720	42 Comp. Gen. 289.....	472
37 Comp. Gen. 330.....	585	42 Comp. Gen. 342.....	109
37 Comp. Gen. 368.....	96	42 Comp. Gen. 346.....	277
37 Comp. Gen. 683.....	775	42 Comp. Gen. 467.....	454
37 Comp. Gen. 688.....	508, 837	42 Comp. Gen. 490.....	13, 204
37 Comp. Gen. 703.....	291	42 Comp. Gen. 508.....	341
37 Comp. Gen. 715.....	221	42 Comp. Gen. 582.....	188
37 Comp. Gen. 760.....	469	42 Comp. Gen. 604.....	360, 385
37 Comp. Gen. 785.....	13	42 Comp. Gen. 653.....	344
38 Comp. Gen. 5.....	261	43 Comp. Gen. 138.....	434
38 Comp. Gen. 146.....	430	43 Comp. Gen. 206.....	14, 842
38 Comp. Gen. 188.....	254, 416	43 Comp. Gen. 223.....	504
38 Comp. Gen. 243.....	492	43 Comp. Gen. 255.....	868
38 Comp. Gen. 405.....	475	43 Comp. Gen. 281.....	807
38 Comp. Gen. 532.....	14	43 Comp. Gen. 332.....	334
38 Comp. Gen. 560.....	524	43 Comp. Gen. 353.....	111, 123, 685
38 Comp. Gen. 647.....	430	43 Comp. Gen. 514.....	558
38 Comp. Gen. 819.....	734, 855	43 Comp. Gen. 667.....	427
38 Comp. Gen. 873.....	786	43 Comp. Gen. 742.....	260
39 Comp. Gen. 17.....	452	43 Comp. Gen. 748.....	334
39 Comp. Gen. 119.....	611	43 Comp. Gen. 821.....	271
39 Comp. Gen. 133.....	130	43 Comp. Gen. 839.....	694
39 Comp. Gen. 178.....	127	44 Comp. Gen. 27.....	215
39 Comp. Gen. 247.....	452	44 Comp. Gen. 51.....	270
39 Comp. Gen. 321.....	492	44 Comp. Gen. 143.....	719
39 Comp. Gen. 396.....	52, 180, 470	44 Comp. Gen. 144.....	183
39 Comp. Gen. 524.....	533	44 Comp. Gen. 171.....	254, 416
39 Comp. Gen. 695.....	702	44 Comp. Gen. 266.....	606
39 Comp. Gen. 895.....	286	44 Comp. Gen. 290.....	558
40 Comp. Gen. 14.....	517	44 Comp. Gen. 326.....	777
40 Comp. Gen. 35.....	354, 868	44 Comp. Gen. 426.....	427
40 Comp. Gen. 40.....	354, 868	44 Comp. Gen. 439.....	61
40 Comp. Gen. 126.....	13	44 Comp. Gen. 476.....	637
40 Comp. Gen. 174.....	614	44 Comp. Gen. 498.....	809
40 Comp. Gen. 226.....	812	44 Comp. Gen. 522.....	819
40 Comp. Gen. 240.....	158, 510	44 Comp. Gen. 626.....	389
40 Comp. Gen. 256.....	510	44 Comp. Gen. 657.....	319
40 Comp. Gen. 393.....	304	44 Comp. Gen. 761.....	556
40 Comp. Gen. 412.....	822	45 Comp. Gen. 47.....	183
40 Comp. Gen. 502.....	183	45 Comp. Gen. 71.....	113
40 Comp. Gen. 508.....	113	45 Comp. Gen. 221.....	202, 342
40 Comp. Gen. 514.....	354	45 Comp. Gen. 224.....	772
40 Comp. Gen. 520.....	663	45 Comp. Gen. 228.....	386, 763
40 Comp. Gen. 660.....	492	45 Comp. Gen. 236.....	859
40 Comp. Gen. 684.....	772	45 Comp. Gen. 417.....	673
40 Comp. Gen. 711.....	493	45 Comp. Gen. 434.....	641
41 Comp. Gen. 134.....	472	45 Comp. Gen. 508.....	859
41 Comp. Gen. 252.....	564	45 Comp. Gen. 538.....	127
41 Comp. Gen. 255.....	668	45 Comp. Gen. 544.....	377
41 Comp. Gen. 289.....	660	45 Comp. Gen. 577.....	377
41 Comp. Gen. 366.....	201	45 Comp. Gen. 608.....	618
41 Comp. Gen. 375.....	430	45 Comp. Gen. 651.....	654
41 Comp. Gen. 404.....	327	45 Comp. Gen. 780.....	137
41 Comp. Gen. 412.....	854	45 Comp. Gen. 785.....	208
41 Comp. Gen. 460.....	81	45 Comp. Gen. 811.....	478
41 Comp. Gen. 484.....	685	46 Comp. Gen. 15.....	485

# TABLES OF STATUTES, ETC., CITED IN DECISIONS

XXV

	Page		Page
46 Comp. Gen. 17.....	608	48 Comp. Gen. 436.....	627
46 Comp. Gen. 34.....	340	48 Comp. Gen. 440.....	462
46 Comp. Gen. 102.....	760	48 Comp. Gen. 502.....	582
46 Comp. Gen. 115.....	554	48 Comp. Gen. 536.....	70, 117, 125, 226, 462, 740
46 Comp. Gen. 123.....	564	48 Comp. Gen. 546.....	331
46 Comp. Gen. 191.....	112, 205	48 Comp. Gen. 555.....	14
46 Comp. Gen. 214.....	637	48 Comp. Gen. 569.....	207
46 Comp. Gen. 263.....	725	48 Comp. Gen. 580.....	237
46 Comp. Gen. 295.....	355	48 Comp. Gen. 583.....	462
46 Comp. Gen. 322.....	517	48 Comp. Gen. 593.....	113, 381
46 Comp. Gen. 371.....	360	48 Comp. Gen. 603.....	474
46 Comp. Gen. 409.....	441	48 Comp. Gen. 644.....	812
46 Comp. Gen. 434.....	854	48 Comp. Gen. 663.....	69, 205
46 Comp. Gen. 556.....	112	48 Comp. Gen. 702.....	58
46 Comp. Gen. 595.....	720	48 Comp. Gen. 719.....	697
46 Comp. Gen. 738.....	375	48 Comp. Gen. 767.....	382
46 Comp. Gen. 745.....	380	48 Comp. Gen. 773.....	760
46 Comp. Gen. 813.....	702	49 Comp. Gen. 97.....	109
46 Comp. Gen. 895.....	590	49 Comp. Gen. 98.....	115, 641
47 Comp. Gen. 9.....	492	49 Comp. Gen. 156.....	205
47 Comp. Gen. 29.....	8, 123, 673	49 Comp. Gen. 195.....	199
47 Comp. Gen. 56.....	480	49 Comp. Gen. 229.....	61, 121, 262, 640
47 Comp. Gen. 103.....	52, 180	49 Comp. Gen. 274.....	199
47 Comp. Gen. 141.....	678	49 Comp. Gen. 284.....	344
47 Comp. Gen. 175.....	215	49 Comp. Gen. 299.....	84
47 Comp. Gen. 185.....	606	49 Comp. Gen. 305.....	612
47 Comp. Gen. 221.....	312	49 Comp. Gen. 356.....	312
47 Comp. Gen. 252.....	61, 421, 673	49 Comp. Gen. 369.....	562
47 Comp. Gen. 272.....	801	49 Comp. Gen. 463.....	58, 570
47 Comp. Gen. 279.....	116, 562	49 Comp. Gen. 527.....	633
47 Comp. Gen. 336.....	112, 123	49 Comp. Gen. 541.....	75
47 Comp. Gen. 362.....	398	49 Comp. Gen. 578.....	748
47 Comp. Gen. 365.....	508, 837	49 Comp. Gen. 581.....	81
47 Comp. Gen. 405.....	765	49 Comp. Gen. 584.....	757
47 Comp. Gen. 438.....	768	49 Comp. Gen. 600.....	364, 803
47 Comp. Gen. 448.....	113	49 Comp. Gen. 618.....	586, 607
47 Comp. Gen. 459.....	204	49 Comp. Gen. 656.....	182, 237
47 Comp. Gen. 496.....	14	49 Comp. Gen. 740.....	763
47 Comp. Gen. 556.....	319	49 Comp. Gen. 749.....	855
47 Comp. Gen. 624.....	702	49 Comp. Gen. 796.....	869
47 Comp. Gen. 728.....	427	50 Comp. Gen. 1.....	125
47 Comp. Gen. 732.....	42	50 Comp. Gen. 8.....	177
47 Comp. Gen. 743.....	766	50 Comp. Gen. 59.....	123, 575
48 Comp. Gen. 19.....	360	50 Comp. Gen. 156.....	512
48 Comp. Gen. 22.....	654	50 Comp. Gen. 215.....	357
48 Comp. Gen. 28.....	176	50 Comp. Gen. 246.....	744
48 Comp. Gen. 49.....	355	50 Comp. Gen. 253.....	732
48 Comp. Gen. 62.....	365	50 Comp. Gen. 266.....	637
48 Comp. Gen. 110.....	812	50 Comp. Gen. 295.....	843
48 Comp. Gen. 219.....	484	50 Comp. Gen. 320.....	327
48 Comp. Gen. 314.....	20, 61, 673	50 Comp. Gen. 390.....	600, 792
48 Comp. Gen. 372.....	49	50 Comp. Gen. 486.....	728
48 Comp. Gen. 381.....	740	50 Comp. Gen. 708.....	852
48 Comp. Gen. 388.....	236	50 Comp. Gen. 729.....	805

## DECISIONS OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY

	Page		Page
17 Comp. Dec. 153.....	99	24 Comp. Dec. 45.....	344
23 Comp. Dec. 167.....	865	25 Comp. Dec. 553.....	806

## DECISIONS OVERRULED OR MODIFIED

	Page		Page
5 Comp. Gen. 649.....	734	B-156052, Mar. 22, 1965, unpublished decision..	327
35 Comp. Gen. 547.....	731	B-157954, Dec. 15, 1965, unpublished decision..	114
41 Comp. Gen. 404.....	327	B-158257, Feb. 10, 1966, unpublished decision..	327
45 Comp. Gen. 780.....	135	B-162035, Aug. 25, 1967, unpublished decision..	327
46 Comp. Gen. 738.....	375	B-166335, June 4, 1969, unpublished decision..	236
47 Comp. Gen. 185.....	606	B-169263, June 1, 1970, unpublished decision..	327
48 Comp. Gen. 398.....	236	B-169468, May 27, 1970, unpublished decision..	327
B-43917, Aug. 30, 1944, unpublished decision..	324		
B-122060, Dec. 21, 1964, unpublished decision..	327		

## DECISIONS OF THE COURTS

	Page		Page
Alcoa Steamship Co., Inc. v. United States, 338 U.S. 421.....	166	Cober v. Connolly, 128 P. 2d 519, 142 A.L.R. 367.....	446
Amell v. United States, 384 U.S. 158.....	170	Cooperative Legislative Committee of R.R. Brotherhoods v. Public Utilities Commis- sion, 80 N.E. 2d 159.....	828
American Trucking Association, Inc., United States v., 310 U.S. 534.....	605	Detling, et al. v. United States, 193 Ct. Cl. 125.....	767
Apache Flooring Co. v. Robert L. Kunzig, Administrator of GSA, USDC DC, Civil Action No. 729-70.....	628	Dewey v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., 152 N.E. 82.....	446
Arlington Trust Co. v. United States, 100 F. Supp. 817.....	436	Dynamics Corp. of America v. United States, 182 Ct. Cl. 62.....	514
Armour's Estate, In Re, 99 A.2d 374.....	318	Elm Spring Farm, Inc., et al. v. United States, 127 F. 2d 920.....	80
Armstrong v. McGough, 247 S.W. 790.....	109	Erenreich v. United States, 164 Ct. Cl. 214.....	478
Basket v. Haswell, 107 U.S. 602.....	717	Exchange and Savings Bank of Berlin v. United States, 226 F. Supp. 56.....	437
Belanger v. Great American Indemnity Co. of New York, 188 F. 2d 196.....	732	Finn v. United States, 192 Ct. Cl. 814.....	375
Bell Aircraft Corp. v. United States, 120 Ct. Cl. 398.....	275	France, et al. v. United States, 193 Ct. Cl. 125.....	767
Bello v. Union Trust Co., 287 F. 2d 190.....	446	Fredericksburg, City of, v. Sanitary Grocery Co., Inc., 190 S.E. 318.....	345
Benjamin v. United States, Union Minerals & Alloys Corp., 162 Ct. Cl. 47.....	440	Fredrikszon v. United States, 133 Ct. Cl. 890.....	158, 510
Binghamton Construction Co., United States v., 347 U.S. 171.....	654	Friedstedt v. United States, 173 Ct. Cl. 447.....	608
Blakey v. Brinson, 286 U.S. 254.....	717	Fulton National Bank v. United States, 197 F. 2d 763.....	444
Bofors, Aktiebolaget v. United States, 194 F. 2d 145.....	277	Gardner v. The Danzler, (CCA 4) 281 F. 2d 719.....	170
Brandt v. United States, 155 Ct. Cl. 345.....	158, 512	Gast, United States v., 297 F. Supp. 620.....	135
Bristol-Myers Co. v. F.T.C., 284 F. Supp. 745.....	155	Geiger v. Brown, 419 F. 2d 714.....	181
Brookridge Farm, United States v., 111 F. 2d 461.....	383, 585	General Electric Co. v. United States, 188 Ct. Cl. 620.....	275
Brown and Son Electric Co. v. United States, 163 Ct. Cl. 465.....	414	Gratiot, United States v., 14 Pet. 526, 39 U.S. 526.....	64
Burton v. United States, 188 Ct. Cl. 172.....	479	Halslip v. United States, 152 Ct. Cl. 339.....	127
Carson, In re, 199 A. 2d 407.....	445	Hardin County Savings Bank, et al. v. United States, 106 Ct. Cl. 577.....	441
Caster v. United States, 319 F. 2d 850.....	131	Hayes, Hal B., & Associates, United States v., 221 F. Supp. 260.....	438
Champa v. Consolidated Finance Corp., 110 N.E. 2d 289.....	321	Helvering v. Janney, 811 U.S. 189.....	445
Charles v. United States, 19 Ct. Cl. 316.....	441	Holcombe, United States v., 277 F. 2d 143.....	80
Chelsea Factors, Inc. v. United States, 149 Ct. Cl. 202.....	436	Holder v. United States, 285 F. Supp. 380.....	136
Chernlok v. United States, 178 Ct. Cl. 498.....	659	Holloway v. Wheeler, Tex. Civ. App. 261 S.W. 467.....	322
Christian, G. L., and Associates v. United States, 160 Ct. Cl. 1, 58.....	350	Howell, United States v., 318 F. 2d 162.....	80
Civil Service Commission v. Secretary of the Navy, USDC DC, Civil Action No. 406-71.....	624	Huse v. Glover, 119 U.S. 543.....	344
Clark v. United States, 151 Ct. Cl. 601.....	510	Illingsworth, In the Matter of, 56-2 U.S.T.O. Par. 10,004.....	445
Clearfield Trust Co. v. United States, 318 U.S. 363.....	443	Jones v. Williams, 45 S.W. 2d 130.....	256
Coastal Cargo Co., Inc. v. United States, 173 Ct. Cl. 259.....	685	Keco Industries, Inc. v. United States, 176 Ct. Cl. 983.....	542
Cobb v. Howard University, 106 F. 2d 860.....	822	Lee v. Habib, USCA DC, No: 22,208.....	206

# TABLES OF STATUTES, ETC., CITED IN DECISIONS XXVII

	Page		Page
Leonard v. United States, 131 Ct. Cl. 91.....	153, 510	Routh v. List & Weatherly Constr. Co., 257 P. 721.....	221
Levinson v. United States, et al., 258 U.S. 198..	455	Ruggiero v. United States, 190 Ct. Cl. 327....	659
Lietz v. Flemming, (CAA 6), 264 F. 2d 311.....	170	Sands v. Manistee River Improvement Co., 123 U.S. 283.....	344
Liverpool & Great Western Steam Co. v. Phenix Insurance Co., 129 U.S. 397.....	823	Satterwhite v. United States, 123 Ct. Cl. 342..	538
Longwill v. United States, 17 Ct. Cl. 238.....	441	Schmidt v. United States, 153 Ct. Cl. 407.....	478
Lovetro v. Steers, 234 C.A. 2d 461, 44 Cal. Repr. 604.....	447	Schoenbrod v. United States, 187 Ct. Cl. 627..	112, 421
Madison v. United States, 174 Ct. Cl. 985.....	478	Seabolt, In re, 113 F. 766.....	221
Maffia v. United States, 143 Ct. Cl. 198.....	440	Shader Contractors, Inc. v. United States, 149 Ct. Cl. 539.....	503, 837
Malatoo Construction Co. v. United States, 79 F. 2d 418.....	822	Sherwood Brothers, Inc. v. Dist. of Columbia, 133 F. 2d 162.....	109
Mallet, United States v., 294 F. Supp. 761.....	438	Simmons v. Smith County Bank, 83 So. 2d 441..	437
Maragon v. United States, 139 Ct. Cl. 544.....	445	Simon v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, 176 F. 2d 230.....	109
May v. United States, 230 F. Supp. 659.....	478	Sorensen's Estate, In Re, 115 P. 2d 241.....	318
McElroy v. Lynch, 232 S.W. 2d 507.....	446	Splawn v. Fitzharris, 297 F. Supp. 44.....	137
Mempa v. Rhay, 389 U.S. 128.....	135	Standard Oil Co. v. City of Charlottesville, 42 F. 2d 88.....	345
Meridian Limited v. Sippy, 128 P. 2d 584.....	155	Standard Oil Co. of Calif. v. Johnson, Treas. of Calif., 316 U.S. 481.....	80
Metro Novelty Manufacturing Co., Inc., United States v., 125 F. Supp. 713.....	40	Standard Oil Co. of Calif., United States v., 20 F. Supp. 427.....	438
Miller v. United States, 180 Ct. Cl. 872.....	608	Steelman v. United States, 162 Ct. Cl. 81.....	492
Monroe Cattle Co. v. Becker, 147 U.S. 47.....	109	Stone v. United States, 358 F. 2d 503.....	131
Monroe, C. N., Mfg. Co. v. United States, 143 F. Supp. 449.....	41	Street v. United States, 133 U.S. 299.....	109
Montana Trust and Legacy Fund, In Re, 338 P. 2d 366.....	718	Strickland Transportation Co. v. United States, 223 F. 2d 466.....	166
Mross v. United States, 186 Ct. Cl. 165.....	482	Studemeyer v. Macy, 321 F. 2d 386.....	478
National Metropolitan Bank v. United States, 323 U.S. 454.....	444	Sumter County School Dist. No. 2, United States v., 232 F. Supp. 945.....	472
New York and Porto Rico Steamship Co., 239 U.S. 88.....	772	Taft v. Helvering, 311 U.S. 195.....	445
O'Keefe v. United States, 174 Ct. Cl. 537.....	538	Tate v. United States, 123 U.S. App. D.C. 261, 359 F. 2d 254.....	207
Ornbaum. v First National Bank of Cloverdale, 8 p. 2d 470.....	717	Tawes v. United States, 146 Ct. Cl. 500.....	492
Ozawa, Takao, v. United States, 280 U.S. 178.....	605	Transportation Co. v. Parkersburg, 107 U.S. 691.....	344
Packet Co. v. Keokuk, 95 U.S. 30.....	344	Travelers Insurance Co. v. Tallahassee Bank and Trust Co., 133 So. 2d 463.....	437
Page Communications Engineers, Inc. v. Stanley R. Resor, et al., USDC DC, Civil Action No. 8173-70.....	574	24 Cans Containing Butter, United States v., (CAA 5) 148 F. 2d 365.....	170
Pan American World Airways, Inc. v. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, 324 F. 2d 217.....	599	Underwater Storage v. United States Rubber Co., 371 F. 2d 950.....	277
People v. Dillard, 298 N.Y.S. 296.....	753	Utah Power & Light Co. v. United States, 243 U.S. 389.....	438
People's National Bank of Chicago, United States v., 249 F. 2d 637.....	444	Vai v. Bank of America, 364 P. 2d 247.....	447
Perry v. Commerce Loan Co., 383 U.S. 392.....	605	Virginia Electric and Power Co. v. Common- wealth, 194 S.E. 775.....	345
Phillips Chemical Co. v. Dumas School Dist., 361 U.S. 376.....	345	Warne, United States v., 190 F. Supp. 645.....	350
Pickett v. Williams, C.A. No. L&T 74757-69....	206	Warren Bros. Roads Co. v. United States, 173 Ct. Cl. 714.....	635
Pope, United States v., 251 F. Supp. 234.....	591	Washburn Storage Co. v. General Motors Corp., 83 S.E. 2d 26.....	535
Possey, Dennis C., United States v., USDC Dist. of Nev., Docket No. LV-1199.....	135	Washington ex rel. Stimson Lumber Co. v. Kuykendall, 275 U.S. 207.....	828
Potter v., Emerald Maintenance, Inc., USDC So. Dist. Tex., Civil Action No. 70-L-36.....	599, 655	Weinberg v. Weinberg, 432 P. 2d 709.....	447
Potter v. Emerald Maintenance, Inc. USDC So. Dist. Tex., Civil Action No. 70-L-38.....	659	Wheelabrator Corp., The, v. John H. Chafee, Sec. of Navy, and Margaret S. Anderson, Contracting Officer, U.S. Navy Purchasing Office, Civil Action No. 2437-70.....	348
Pressed Steel Car Co. v. Standard Steel Car Co. 60 A. 4.....	276	Wiley, John & Sons v. Livingston, 376 U.S. 543..	655
Prince Georges County, County School Board, Va., United States v., 221 F. Supp. 93.....	472	Williams v. United States, 145 Ct. Cl. 513.....	158, 510
Propeller Niagara v. Cordes, et al., 21 How. 7..	828		
Ramsey, United States v., 197 F. 144.....	828		
Reiner, John, and Co. v. United States, 163 Ct. Cl. 381.....	414, 635		



# INDEX DIGEST

July 1, 1970—June 30, 1971

Page

## ABSENCES

Leaves of absence. (*See* Leaves of Absence)

## ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS

### Relief

#### Procedural changes

##### Postal Service

The new sec. 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b), which places responsibility to relieve, compromise, or otherwise settle relief cases concerning Postal matters in Postal Service and removes U.S. GAO from process does not have effect of setting aside decisions already made by GAO on relief matters under 31 U.S.C. 82a-1 or 39 U.S.C. 2401. Although procedural or remedial statutes such as 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) are not subject to general rule against retroactive application and they apply to all accrued, pending, and future actions, steps already taken, pleadings, and all things done under old law stand, unless contrary intent is manifested. Since change in procedural law does not operate retroactively, new authority of 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) does not extend to affect, change, or modify actions taken by GAO on postal relief matters prior to effective date of section-----

731

## ADMINISTRATIVE DETERMINATIONS

### Conclusiveness

#### Contracts

##### Disputes

##### Law questions

Interpretation of "Time for Delivery" provision in contract for court reporting and transcription service of hearings before National Transportation Safety Board, Department of Transportation, is question of law and not of fact for resolution under "Disputes" clause of contract. Requirement to deliver transcripts originating outside of Washington, D.C., to Docket Section of Board, located in Washington, within 10 days, means transcripts must be in custody of specified office within 10 calendar days from date of hearing, and mere fact of mailing transcripts before expiration of 10-day period does not constitute full compliance with delivery clause-----

513

### Discretionary v. mandatory

Omission of addresses of subcontractors listed by prime contractor in bid submission is minor informality that may be waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. when contracting agency can independently determine omitted addresses from readily available information—contractor register, telephone directories, agency records—as well as from personal knowledge. Since incompleteness of bid did not result in ambiguity that requires clarification by bidder, no possibility of bid shopping exists, nor is bid nonresponsive on basis bidder was given "two bites at the apple." Extent to which contracting agency will extend its search for similarly named firms is discretionary matter; and if discretion is abused, protest could be filed with U.S. GAO-----

295

**ADVERTISING**

Page

**Advertising v. negotiation distinctions**

While rigid rules applicable to formally advertised procurements generally require award to lowest (price) responsive, responsible bidder, flexibility inherent in concept of negotiation permits award to be made to best advantage of Govt., price and other factors considered. Therefore, utilization in "competitive negotiation" of price as factor in selection of contractor will not adversely affect selection of qualified contractor by Forest Service for performance of firefighting services.....

110

**AGENTS****Of private parties****Authority****Contracts****Signatures**

Under rule that there is no prohibition to furnishing proof of agency after bid opening—although requiring bidders to submit such proof before bid opening is recommended to avoid challenges from other bidders—confirmation after bid opening of employee's authority to bind his employer was properly accepted and bid considered responsive, entitling low bidder to contract award.....

627

**AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT****Milk indemnity program****Contamination of milk**

Milk indemnity payments authorized by Pub. L. 90-484 to be made to dairy farmers who are directed to remove milk from commercial markets because milk contained residues of chemicals registered and approved for use by Federal Govt., may not be allowed pursuant to Pub. L. 91-127 when milk is removed as result of farmer's willful failure to follow procedures prescribed by Govt. Where dairy farmer predicates milk indemnity claim on compliance with procedures for use of DDT pesticides on cotton fields sprayed from airplanes, it is not sufficient that it cannot be proved farmer was at fault; but rather to receive indemnity payments for contaminated milk, burden is on farmer to establish that he was not at fault.....

305

**ALASKA****Employees****Transfers****Within Alaska****Relocation expenses**

Employees of Federal Highway Administration who are transferred between duty stations within State of Alaska are only entitled to subsistence expenses for period of 30 days while occupying temporary quarters with their dependents, which is period prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5724a (a) (3) and implementing regulations when new official station is located within U.S., its territories or possessions, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or Canal Zone. Extension of subsistence allowance for additional period of up to 30 days occupancy of temporary quarters applies only when employee transfers to or from Hawaii, Alaska, territories or possessions, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or Canal Zone, and, therefore, employees transferred within Alaska are subject to 30-day limitation .....

829

**ALIENS**

Page

**Employment**

**Compensation payments**

**Overpayments**

Authority in 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive erroneous payments of compensation made to employees of executive agencies is applicable to non-U.S. citizens employed by U.S. in foreign areas, as term "employee" as used in sec. 5584 means employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 2105; that is, individual appointed in "civil service," which constitutes all appointive positions in executive, judicial, and legislative branches of Govt., except positions in uniformed services (5 U.S.C. 2101(1)). Therefore, Philippine citizen, properly appointed to position in executive branch to perform Federal function supervised by Federal employee, is employee under 5 U.S.C. 5584 and entitled to waiver of erroneous compensation payments without regard to fact employment is under labor agreement with Philippine Govt.-----

329

**Retired**

**Member of the United States military**

Retired pay eligibility. (See Pay, retired, foreign residence effect)

**ALLOWANCES**

**Evacuation allowances**

**Overseas civilian employees**

Under broad authority in 5 U.S.C. 5523(b), special allowances, prescribed by Standardized Regs. incident to evacuation of dependents at overseas post of duty, may be paid to employee in behalf of dependents who are not at his post at time of evacuation but who are directly affected by orders. However, as payments of additional allowances for unusual expenses must be attributable to post evacuation order, when dependents are absent for personal reasons at time evacuation order issues, with no intention of returning to post for duration of evacuation, employee is not entitled to special allowance, having incurred no unusual expenses; but if an absent dependent is prevented from returning by reason of evacuation order issued during his absence, unusual expenses incurred are payable from time intended return is blocked.-----

89

Separate maintenance allowance paid at lower rate than special allowance authorized when dependents are evacuated from overseas post of employee, involves situations where dependents are not permitted to reside at employee's post under circumstances known well in advance to allow for reasonable planning and, therefore, serves different purpose than special allowances authorized incident to evacuation of dependents who, intending to reside at employee's post, are prevented from so doing by emergency under circumstances which do not permit orderly planning of employee's household. Furthermore, sec. 262.32 of Standardized Regs. prohibits payment of separation allowance for period that is less than 90 days—a limitation that does not apply to special allowance.-----

89

Family separation. (See Family Allowances, separation)

**Military personnel**

**Dislocation allowance**

Members with dependents. (See Transportation, dependents, military personnel, dislocation allowance)

Excess living costs outside United States, etc. (See Station Allowances, military personnel, excess living costs outside United States, etc.)

Quarters allowance. (See Quarters Allowance)

**ALLOWANCES—Continued**

Page

Subsistence. (*See* Subsistence Allowance)

Temporary lodging allowance

Military personnel. (*See* Station Allowances, military personnel, temporary lodgings)**ANNUAL LEAVE**(*See* Leaves of Absence, annual)**ANTITRUST MATTERS**

Labor organizations

The jurisdiction to enforce antitrust statutes lies with Dept. of Justice and U.S. General Accounting Office is without authority to issue determination respecting applicability or violation of statutes. However, under 15 U.S.C. 17, labor organizations engaged in lawful pursuits are exempted from restrictions of antitrust statutes.....

648

**APPOINTMENTS**

Applications for employment

Conditional

Indication in Standard Form 57, Application for Federal Employment, that applicant would not accept employment outside State of residence does not make him as Federal employee immune from reassignment, as purpose of Form 57 is to inform appointing officers and not to embody contract of employment; and, therefore, condition imposed in employment application does not entitle employee who refuses to accept reassignment outside initial State of employment in interests of Govt. to severance pay authorized in 5 U.S.C. 5595 for employees involuntarily separated from service through no fault of their own.....

476

Discrimination

Race or sex

Upon determination that employee who received excepted Schedule B appointment at grade GS-9 was discriminated against because of race or sex, which is expressly prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 7154(b) and 5 CFR 713.202, as she qualified for a GS-11 position and was assigned and performed work warranting a GS-11 classification, correction of personnel action and adjustment in pay is legally justified on basis original classification and appointment as GS-9 was illegal, and corrective action is not viewed as retroactive promotion such as ordinarily is prohibited by law.....

581

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Availability

Expenses incident to specific purposes

Necessary expenses

Propriety of Forest Service of Dept. of Agriculture to use appropriation entitled "Forest Protection and Utilization" for payment of plastic litter bags is for determination on basis of whether contract involved is reasonably necessary or incident to execution of program or activity authorized by appropriation. If no other appropriation provides more specifically for items such as litter bags, appropriation may be used to satisfy contract.....

584

**APPROPRIATIONS—Continued**

Page

**Availability—Continued**

**Indigent persons**

**Court costs**

Psychiatric examination of criminal defendant to determine his mental competency to understand proceedings against him or assist in his own defense authorized by subsec. (e) of Criminal Justice Act of 1964, 18 U.S.C. 3006 A(e), providing for investigative, expert, or other services necessary to adequate defense to 18 U.S.C. 4244, and subpoena of witnesses at no cost to defendant authorized under Rule 17(b) of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure when defendant is financially unable to pay fees of witness whose presence is necessary to adequate defense are distinct services for payment purposes. Services pursuant to 1964 act are payable by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts and those rendered in accordance with Rule 17(b) are payable by Dept. of Justice.....

128

Cost of psychiatric examination of indigent criminal defendant for purpose of establishing insanity at time offense is committed is payable from funds appropriated for implementation of Criminal Justice Act of 1964 by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts, and cost of examination to determine defendant's mental competency to stand trial for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 4244 is expense to be borne by Dept. of Justice in accordance with guidelines issued by Judicial Conference of U.S. in recognition of distinction between two purposes served by psychiatric examination. Where examination serves dual purpose, cost to determine competency to stand trial should be borne by Justice and additional expense to determine insanity at time of offense to Criminal Justice Act appropriation...

128

**Defense Department**

**Fees for meetings**

Registration fees incurred by member of uniformed services while on temporary duty, incident to attendance at meeting, conference, or workshop sponsored by Federal agency, may be reimbursed to member from appropriations available to Dept. of Defense for travel expenses under appropriate Departmental regulations when member is otherwise properly directed by orders of competent authority to attend meeting in temporary duty status; but since Federal agency meeting is not meeting of technical, scientific, professional, or similar organization within contemplation of 37 U.S.C. 412, approval of Secretary of Defense required by sec. 412 is not necessary.....

527

**Justice Department**

**Litigation expenses**

**Probational proceedings**

Where probationer charged with violation of probation conditions moves for psychiatric examination, examination fee is payable by Dept. of Justice when psychiatric services involve 18 U.S.C. 4244 proceeding to determine defendant's mental competency for purpose of continuing hearing for revocation of probation.....

128

In view of *Mempa v. Rhay*, 389 U.S. 128 (1967), involving right to counsel in probation revocation coupled with deferred sentencing proceeding, 45 Comp. Gen. 780 (1966) need no longer be considered controlling in connection with proceedings involving deferred sentencing, whether or not such proceedings are coupled with revocation of probation, but decision remains in effect insofar as simple revocation of pro-

**APPROPRIATIONS—Continued****Page****Justice Department—Continued****Litigation expenses—Continued****Probational proceedings—Continued**

bation proceedings are concerned. Whether cost of psychiatric examination is for payment under Criminal Justice Act or under 18 U.S.C. 4244, depends on purpose of examination; that is, whether it is intended to establish insanity of defendant at time of offense or serves as tool for his defense.-----

**126****No-Year****Authorization v. appropriation act**

Notwithstanding sec. 101 of Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 authorized appropriation of funds without fiscal year limitation for purpose of adjusting effective interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, Congress having in sec. 509 of Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1971, which provided funds to implement enabling act, restricted availability of funds appropriated by act to current fiscal year unless otherwise expressly provided, "no-year" provision in authorization act is not incorporated in appropriation act so as to meet requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718, and, therefore, funds appropriated for interest adjustment payments by Federal home loan banks are not available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971 -----

**857****Obligations****Definite commitment**

Accounting procedure employed by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts with respect to paying court-appointed attorneys under provisions of Criminal Justice Act of 1964 from appropriation current at time of appointment regardless of date voucher, subject to court review, is submitted, may not be revised to make payment from appropriation current at time voucher is approved in order to eliminate holding obligated appropriation account open beyond close of normal fiscal year. Contractual obligation for payment of attorney occurs at time he is appointed, even though exact amount of obligation remains to be determined; and pursuant to secs. 3782 and 3679, R. S., and 41 U.S.C. 11; 31 *id.* 665(a); *id.* 712a, fee payable is chargeable to appropriation for fiscal year in which obligation was incurred-----

**589****Transfers****Postal services****Status of appropriations**

Although utilization by Postal Service of obligated and unobligated appropriations available to Post Office Dept. on July 1, 1970, effective date of transition of its functions to Postal Service is permitted under 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2), unobligated balances for fiscal year 1970 and prior years that had reverted to Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 701 would require act of Congress to be made available to Postal Service for liquidation of valid obligations. However, 1971 appropriations need not be included in any reappropriation of funds since they had not expired for obligation or reverted to Treasury. Notwithstanding 39 U.S.C. 1005 (e) requires Postal Service to assume obligation to pay for annual leave that accrued to employees before and after transition, since such leave is not chargeable to unexpended balances of prior year appropriations transferred to Service, Federal Govt. pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2) is liable for payments-----

**868**

**APPROPRIATIONS—Continued**

Page

**What constitutes appropriated funds**

**Special deposit accounts**

**House and Senate restaurants**

Special deposit accounts established under 40 U.S.C. 174k(b) and 174j-4, with Treasurer of U.S. by Architect of Capitol as manager of House and Senate restaurants, constitute permanent indefinite appropriations for use similar to revolving fund in view of fact the funds otherwise would be for deposit as miscellaneous receipts; and funds do not lose their identity as appropriated funds, because funds appropriated for contingent expenses of House and Senate are deposited and disbursed from accounts. Therefore, since restaurant employees are paid from funds considered appropriated funds, restriction in Pub. L. 91-144, against payment of compensation from appropriated funds to other than U.S. citizens, prohibits employment of aliens by restaurants. Overrules B-43917, Aug. 30, 1944, relative to special deposit accounts; but pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5533, restaurant employees are now exempt from dual compensation prohibition-----

828

**ARBITRATION**

**Advisory**

**Executive Order No. 10988 procedures**

Establishment of first 40 hours of duty as basic workweek of Govt. quality control inspectors due to release from work of contractor employees when unpredictable interruptions and delays occur in checkout of missiles prior to launch—countdown—was in accord with 5 U.S.C. 6101 and Civil Service Reg. 610.111, which authorize uncommon tours of duty to maintain efficient operations and prevent cost increases. Therefore, determination of arbitration board under E.O. No. 10988 procedures that new work schedule was in violation of collective bargaining contract, requires no compensation and leave adjustments. Moreover, Executive order provides that arbitration "shall be advisory in nature with any decision or recommendation subject to approval of the agency head."-----

708

**Employee personnel actions**

Following upgrading of entrance grades for attorneys to GS-9 and GS-11 from GS-7 and GS-9, and adjusting of grades as consequence, National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) negotiated agreement with NLRB Professional Assn. to consider shorter time periods for promotions and requested waiver of Whitten Amendment requirement of 1-year ingrade except when only 5 weeks or less remained to complete required year of service, and as agreement entered into pursuant to E.O. No. 10988; which reserved to Govt. authority to promote efficiency of personnel operations, does not guarantee promotions, exercise of 5-week rule is administrative and its validity is not matter for arbitration. Therefore, attorney whose promotion was delayed by reason of 5-week rule is not entitled to retroactive promotion for in absence of administrative error general rule against retroactive promotions applies-----

850

**ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS**

(See Claims, assignment)

**AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING SYSTEMS**

(See Equipment, Automatic Data Processing Systems)

**BIDDERS**

Page

**Qualifications****Business clearance requirement**

In negotiation under 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(11) of cost-plus-incentive-fee research and development contract for radar sets where contracting agency left choice of one of three power tubes to be used to offerors, selection of other than low offeror on basis of change in tube preferred and acceptance of price reduction, although selected offeror was not "successful offeror" contemplated by par. 3-506(b) of ASPR, and business clearance required by ASPR 1-403 had not been satisfied, without giving all offerors within competitive range opportunity to compete on basis of its preference was inconsistent with concept of competitive negotiation, as time for negotiating price and technical aspects is during source selection competitive phase of negotiating process and, therefore, negotiations should be reopened to afford all offerors opportunity to revise their technical and price proposals-----

739

**Capacity, etc.****Disqualified on erroneous basis**

In negotiation of procurement, exception in 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) to conducting discussions with all responsible offerors within competitive range may not be invoked by contracting officer to make award to other than low responsible offeror where price is sole evaluation factor and, therefore, award to second low offeror, incumbent contractor, without obtaining Certificate of Competency (COC) on low offeror, a small business concern considered nonresponsible on factors relating to capacity and credit, was illegal and award should be canceled. No award should have been made unless SBA refused to issue COC or did not respond to referral within 15 days, or in alternative if low proposal was unacceptable without clarification, discussions should have been conducted with all offerors within competitive range-----

67

**Experience****Specialized, etc.**

Under letter request, first step of two-step procurement, which contained "Bidder's Technical Qualification Clause" stating technical proposals would be accepted only from those contractors who have manufactured and can demonstrate at operating airfield a Solid State Conventional Instrument Landing System, evaluation of capabilities of prime contractor and its subcontractor—French firm who manufactured and demonstrated system in France—although within policy enunciated in par. 4-117 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which recognizes integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements, was contrary to intent of clause, and proposal premised on subcontractor's system should not have been considered. Therefore, in future procurements, clause should specify permissible relationships or refer to ASPR provision -----

163

**Financial responsibility****Evaluation**

Under request for proposals that contained "Submission of Financial Data" clause and was issued pursuant to public exigency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(2), contracting officer, in accepting recommendation of Contractor Evaluation Board based on inadequate financial data that low offeror was financially nonresponsible, avoided information-----



**BIDDERS—Continued**

Page

**Qualifications—Continued****Financial responsibility—Continued****Evaluation—Continued**

gathering duty prescribed by Defense Contract Financing Reg., part 2, appendix "E" of Armed Services Procurement Reg., notwithstanding urgency of procurement. Because of doubtful findings and wide disparity between two offers received, further negotiations should have been conducted before awarding contract to high offeror who initially had not complied with clause. Although nearly completed contract will not be disturbed, future responsibility determinations should be adequately supported -----

281

**Geographical location requirement**

A requirement in invitation for bids that contract be performed in restricted geographical area is reasonable limitation on competition when contracting agency needs prompt service and plant accessibility, and restriction relating to bidder responsibility, compliance with requirement results in valid contract. Therefore, although contractor's unauthorized action subsequent to contract awards to effect performance of printing of technical publications restricted to Dallas-Fort Worth area in San Antonio constitutes breach of contract and Govt. has vested right to insist on performance in restricted area, since performance in San Antonio area will not deprive Govt. of contemplated rights, contracts may be modified to delete restriction with adequate price adjustment, however, future procurements should broaden competition by enlarging performance area-----

769

**License requirement****Bidders not licensed prior to bidding**

Bidder who could not certify that it had or could obtain prior to award, necessary ICC authority in its own name as required by invitation for bids (IFB) for movement or storage of household effects and therefore would have to rely on subcontractors to furnish services it could not perform is nonresponsive bidder, notwithstanding subcontracting clause of IFB permits qualified bidder after obtaining award to subcontract with prior approval of contracting officer as subcontracting clause does not purport to modify requirement that prospective contractor possess necessary operating authority prior to award. However, since award is recommended to bidder unable to comply with 100 percent operating authority requirement, requirement appears unessential and unduly restrictive of competition and, therefore, IFB should be canceled and resolicited-----

758

**Manufacturer or dealer****Criteria**

Invitation for installation of heavy equipment replacements that omitted Davis-Bacon Act on basis procurement did not contemplate construction, alteration, or repair of public building, and incorporated provisions of Walsh-Healey Act, which requires contractor to be manufacturer of or regular dealer in equipment to be supplied, and provision for bidders to attest to their experience and competency should be canceled and reissued by contracting agency under guidelines in sec. 1-12.402-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for determining whether substantial amounts of construction, alteration, or repair work would be involved, also taking

**BIDDERS—Continued**

Page

**Qualifications—Continued****Manufacturer or dealer—Continued****Criteria—Continued**

into consideration fact that no bidder qualified as manufacturer or dealer to be eligible for award, and that solicitation in requiring experience and competency attestation was unduly restrictive of competition-----

807

**Preadward surveys****Small business concerns****Unsatisfactory**

Under small business set-aside for award of requirements type contract, evaluation of low bid for purpose of Certificate of Competency (COC) procedures on basis of initial quantity to be purchased rather than estimated quantity to be ordered during contract period was inconsistent with use of estimated quantity to determine low bidder and to perform preaward survey, and resulted in erroneous refusal of contracting officer to refer low bidder's unfavorable preaward survey to Small Business Administration (SBA) as required by par. 1-705(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR). Therefore, procedure in ASPR 1-705.4(c)(vi) should be implemented and if SBA determines that COC would have been granted at time of award and that such determination is still valid, contract awarded should be canceled and award made to low bidder-----

799

**Small business concerns****Certification referral procedure**

In negotiation of procurement, exception in 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) to conducting discussions with all responsible offerors within competitive range may not be invoked by contracting officer to make award to other than low responsible offeror where price is sole evaluation factor and, therefore, award to second low offeror, incumbent contractor, without obtaining Certificate of Competency (COC) on low offeror, a small business concern considered nonresponsible on factors relating to capacity and credit, was illegal and award should be canceled. No award should have been made unless SBA refused to issue COC or did not respond to referral within 15 days, or in alternative if low proposal was unacceptable without clarification, discussions should have been conducted with all offerors within competitive range-----

67

**Subcontractors****As bid evaluation factor**

Under letter request, first step of two-step procurement, which contained "Bidder's Technical Qualification Clause" stating technical proposals would be accepted only from those contractors who have manufactured and can demonstrate at operating airfield a Solid State Conventional Instrument Landing System, evaluation of capabilities of prime contractor and its subcontractor—French firm who manufactured and demonstrated system in France—although within policy enunciated in par. 4-117 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which recognizes integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements, was contrary to intent of clause, and proposal premised on subcontractor's system should not have been considered. Therefore, in future procurements, clause should specify permissible relationships or refer to ASPR provision-----

163

**BIDDERS—Continued**

Page

**Qualifications—Continued****Tenacity and perseverance****Imputed to successor concern**

Lack of tenacity and perseverance known to two principals of delinquent concern in Sept. 1969, when they first undertook to reorganize concern, although they did not acquire formal control until Apr. 1970, at which time they assumed administration and management of reorganized corporate entity and changed its operating personnel, may be imputed to new owners from Sept. 1969, as they then could have cured contract delinquencies even without a novation of delinquent contracts. Therefore, negative preaward survey of new concern, low under request for proposals to furnish bomb release units, which was based on its predecessor's lack of tenacity and perseverance, should be reevaluated under par. 1-903.1(III) of Armed Services Procurement Reg.; and if adverse, referred to Small Business Administration.....

360

Small business concerns. (See Contracts, awards, small business concerns)

**BIDS****Acceptance time limitation****Extension****Effect of request to extend**

Fact that bidders are asked to extend their bid acceptance time pursuant to par. 2-404.1(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. does not give bidders option to withdraw bids, and bidder who does not extend bid acceptance time must accept contract awarded to him prior to expiration of initial bid acceptance period; and as request for extension of bid acceptance time does not convert formally advertised procurement into negotiated procurement, bidders may not be permitted to revise bid prices when granting extension, for this would be tantamount to permitting them to submit second bid after bid opening contrary to competitive bidding principles.....

388

**Protest determination**

Where second low bidder, during period for accepting its bid, filed protest with U.S. GAO as to unacceptability of low bid, consideration of its bid submitted under invitation for bids on electronic equipment is not precluded because bid acceptance period was extended only after acceptance date had expired, since filing of protest tolled expiration of bid acceptance period until after resolution of protest. As no other bidder is eligible for award, integrity of competitive system is not involved; and, therefore, there is no "compelling reason" to reject second low bid. However, in future procurements should award be delayed until after expiration of bid acceptance period, procedures prescribed in secs. 1-2.404-1(c) and 1-2.407-8(b) (2) of Federal Procurement Regs. should be followed....

357

Aggregate v. separable items, prices, etc.

**Award basis**

Invitation for bids issued pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 252(c) that requested lump-sum bids for construction of campus facilities (base bid), plus bids on each of four additive items, and indicated award for base bid, plus additives, if any, would be made to low bidder on base bid without regard to his overall bid price, did not conform with requirements in 41 U.S.C. 253(b) that award should be made to responsible bidder whose bid "will be most advantageous to Govt., price and other factors considered."

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Aggregate v. separable items, prices, etc.—Continued****Award basis—Continued**

Therefore, award for facilities and additives to lowest overall bidder who was not low on base bid would be proper and in accord with sec. 253(b), as lowest bidder must be measured by total work to be awarded in order to obtain benefits of full competition, which is purpose of public procurement statutes.-----

583

**All or none****Award to one bidder advantageous**

Failure to submit price for one of four military installations at which delivery is to be made of coveralls solicited under invitation that requested individual prices on quantities specified for each installation is not clerical oversight that may be waived as minor irregularity pursuant to par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and omitted price may not be inserted on basis single price quoted for other three installations applies to entire quantity solicited because bidder had checked block captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none" in bid form, nor may nonresponsive bid be considered for partial award. As award of whole contract is in best interests of Govt., it may be made to responsive and responsible bidder offering low aggregate bid whose per unit net price for entire procurement is reasonable although slightly higher than that of nonresponsive bidder.-----

852

**Alternative****Acceptability**

Low alternate bid offering to use polyethylene bags with Kraft paper overwrap in lieu of cartons to ship fuel-resistant baffle material satisfying packaging and packing requirements set forth in applicable military specifications and included in invitation for bids, neither of which spelled out type of material or construction of container, was responsive bid, acceptance of which was proper. Invitation for bids did not require use of fiberboard cartons and military specifications require only that materials be packed in manner to insure acceptance by common carrier and provide protection against damage during shipment. Furthermore, overwrapped polyethylene bags constitute "containers" within meaning of "Glossary of Packaging Terms" and par. 1-1204 of Armed Services Procurement Reg.-----

140

**Ambiguous****Construction****Against bidder**

Telegraphic modification of bid on Govt. surplus property, which read "Increase Item 13 bid \$8900," is ambiguous modification, as it can be interpreted to increase original bid "by" \$8900 or "to" \$8900; and telegram, therefore, should be disregarded in determining highest bidder on item. Telegraphic bid modification reasonably susceptible of two varying interpretations, one only making bid price high, it would be prejudicial to other bidders to permit bidder who created ambiguity to select after bid opening the interpretation to be adopted.-----

802

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Ambiguous—Continued**

**Two possible interpretations**

**Both reasonable**

Where two different interpretations of delivery provision in bid that offered delivery in "approximately 120 days (as requested)" in response to invitation stating delivery was desired within 120 days, but required within 150 days, are reasonable, delivery term stated is at best ambiguous; and, therefore, B-170287, dated Aug. 18, 1970, holding bid should be rejected as nonresponsive, is affirmed-----

379

**What constitutes an ambiguity**

Omission of addresses of subcontractors listed by prime contractor in bid submission is minor informality that may be waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. when contracting agency can independently determine omitted addresses from readily available information—contractor register, telephone directories, agency records—as well as from personal knowledge. Since incompleteness of bid did not result in ambiguity that requires clarification by bidder, no possibility of bid shopping exists, nor is bid nonresponsive on basis bidder was given "two bites at the apple." Extent to which contracting agency will extend its search for similarly named firms is discretionary matter; and if discretion is abused, protest could be filed with U.S. GAO. Auction technique bidding. (See Contracts, negotiation, auction technique prohibition)

295

**Awards. (See Contracts, awards)**

**Bid forms**

**Initialing bid changes**

Bid sent by certified mail that was not directed to bid opening room or did not list information required by invitation, and which although timely delivered to mail room, as shown by Post Office Dept. form considered acceptable documentary evidence, was not identified until after bids were opened, may be considered on basis that failure to recognize from corporate name and size of envelope that envelope contained bid constitutes Govt. mishandling, and that lapse of time between receipt, opening, and delivery of bid was unreasonable for certified mail, and fact that price alteration was uninitialed does not require rejection of low bid where intended bid price is not in doubt and remained low, and there is no indication bidder had opportunity to reclaim and alter bid -----

71

**Bid shopping. (See Contracts, subcontracts, bid shopping)**

**Block bidding**

**Prevention**

Quantity Limitation Prohibition Clause intended to prevent block bidding that was included in invitation for bids to manufacture flight jackets for delivery at several destinations which provided each bidder may submit one quantity *only* at one price for each item bid, and may stipulate maximum/minimum quantity acceptable for each item or overall procurement caused no ambiguity in invitation, and offer bidding on first 7,470 for each destination and then including this same quantity with additional 1,000 for next increment of 8,470 each and so on until each additional 1,000 added thereon reached total procurement quantity

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Block bidding—Continued****Prevention—Continued**

of 16,470 each, offered more than one price for quantity and violation of clause may not be waived under par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. as informality.....

48

Bonds. (*See* Bonds, *bid*)

Brand name or equal. (*See* Contracts, specifications, restrictive, particular make)

**Buy American Act****Buy American Certificate****Acceptance**

Where offer is accepted from offeror who excludes no products from Buy American Certificate, or otherwise indicates he is not offering domestic source end item, general acceptance of certificate by contracting officials is proper since offeror is legally obligated under contract to furnish Govt. domestic source end product, and compliance with that obligation is matter of contract administration which has no effect on validity of contract award.....

697

**Evaluation****Erroneous**

Award to higher bidder offering surgical steel blade manufactured in U.S. from imported stainless steel, based on erroneous determination item is domestic source and product as defined in par. 6-101(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under rule in ASPR 6-001(d) relating to nonavailability of domestic steel, rather than award to low bidder proposing to use similar steel and manufacture blade abroad—considered foreign end product—will not be disturbed, as award was made under mistaken belief held by all participants that only use of imported steel was authorized, notwithstanding availability of domestic carbon steel. Furthermore, adding 50-percent differential prescribed by ASPR 6-104.4(b) displaces low bid.....

239

**Foreign product determination****Comparison of foreign and domestic component costs**

In evaluation under par. 6-104.4 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. of microwave transistors of foreign make to be used in electronic equipment solicited under request for proposals to determine if price differential imposed by Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a-d) should be considered, transistors were properly held to be domestic source end item as evidenced by offeror's entry of "none" in block entitled "Excluded End Products" of Buy American Certificate, in view of fact cost—materials, labor, and other items of expense—of power unit manufactured in-house and its case, which together with transistor comprise amplifier, exceeds cost of foreign transistors, therefore, constituting amplifier as domestic source end product within meaning of Buy American Act.....

697

**Component v. end product**

Procedure that invites bidders and offerors to furnish surgical steel blades made from either domestic carbon steel or imported stainless steel without indicating preference, leaving determination of availability of domestic steel to bidders or offerors, is defective procedure as composition of steel selected for end product is, under definition in par. 6-001 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., component of end product and

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Buy American Act—Continued**

**Foreign product determination—Continued**

**Component v. end product—Continued**

subject to restrictions of Buy American Act, 41 U.S.C. 10a-d. Therefore, when carbon steel is available, restrictions of act may not be waived for product manufactured in U.S. from foreign steel. Furthermore, determination to exempt item from restrictions of act must, in accordance with ASPR 6-103.2(a), be included in solicitation.....

239

**Cost information**

Although cost information which procuring activities obtain when domestic source of item offered is questioned under Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a-d), need not be made public as part of bid, agency should obtain sufficient information to ascertain that foreign materials constitute less than 50 percent of cost of those materials directly incorporated in item being procured.....

697

"Buying in" basis. (See Bids, prices, "buying in" basis)

Cancellation. (See Bids, discarding all bids)

**Competitive system**

**Aggregate bid requirement**

Invitation for bids issued pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 252(c) that requested lump-sum bids for construction of campus facilities (base bid), plus bids on each of four additive items, and indicated award for base bid, plus additives, if any, would be made to low bidder on base bid without regard to his overall bid price, did not conform with requirements in 41 U.S.C. 253(b) that award should be made to responsible bidder whose bid "will be most advantageous to Govt., price and other factors considered." Therefore, award for facilities and additives to lowest overall bidder who was not low on base bid would be proper and in accord with sec. 253(b), as lowest bidder must be measured by total work to be awarded in order to obtain benefits of full competition, which is purpose of public procurement statutes.....

588

**Ambiguous bids**

Unsolicited insertion of plant part numbers in low bid to furnish engine air filters without express statement that specifications would be complied with created ambiguity that may not be resolved by reference to "catalog cut sheets" and other data available to Govt. before bid opening, as reliance on this information would afford bidder option to affect responsiveness of bid—an option detrimental to the competitive bidding system. Therefore, as contracting officer cannot determine whether bidder offered conforming article or that part numbers were included for purpose of internal control, bid is considered qualified bid and may not be considered for award.....

8

**Bid acceptance time**

Fact that bidders are asked to extend their bid acceptance time pursuant to par. 2-404.1(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. does not give bidders option to withdraw bids, and bidder who does not extend bid acceptance time must accept contract awarded to him prior to expiration of initial bid acceptance period; and as request for extension of bid acceptance time does not convert formally advertised procurement into negotiated procurement, bidders may not be permitted to revise bid prices

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Competitive system—Continued****Bid acceptance time—Continued**

when granting extension, for this would be tantamount to permitting them to submit second bid after bid opening contrary to competitive bidding principles.....

388

**Bidder qualification information**

Bidder who could not certify that it had or could obtain prior to award, necessary IOC authority in its own name as required by invitation for bids (IFB) for movement or storage of household effects and therefore would have to rely on subcontractors to furnish services it could not perform is nonresponsive bidder, notwithstanding subcontracting clause of IFB permits qualified bidder after obtaining award to subcontract with prior approval of contracting officer as subcontracting clause does not purport to modify requirement that prospective contractor possess necessary operating authority prior to award. However, since award is recommended to bidder unable to comply with 100 percent operating authority requirement, requirement appears unessential and unduly restrictive of competition and, therefore, IFB should be canceled and resolicited.....

753

**"Buy Indian Act"**

Grant of preferential treatment by negotiating contract without competition with dairy corporation that is 51 percent owned by persons of Indian descent; that is located 30 miles from Indian reservation, but will employ Indian help; and that is financed by Small Business Administration loan, conforms to reasonable criteria established to accomplish purposes of so-called Buy Indian Act (25 U.S.C. 47), to acquire products and services from Indian industry, and to loan criteria established by Administration. Fact that minority owner is non-Indian and will furnish expertise and managerial ability does not impute that firm is "straw" organization or is unqualified as Indian industry. Therefore, firm may be considered eligible if prior to award it obtains required interstate shipper's permit.....

94

**"Buying in" prices**

Where low bid price had been confirmed, negating existence of mistake, suspicion of "buying in" does not require rejection of bid because low bidder submitted unprofitable price. Par. 1-311(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. in defining "buying in" as practice of attempting to obtain contract award by knowingly offering price or cost estimate less than anticipated costs with expectation of recovering any losses, either during contract performance or in future "follow-on" contracts, does not provide for bid rejection and, therefore, there is no legal basis upon which award may be precluded or disturbed because low bidder submitted unprofitable price.....

50

**Effect of erroneous awards**

Where invitation for bids provided for consideration of late bid modification only if delay was due to Western Union and par. 2-303.4 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., in effect at time, provided for consideration only if late receipt of modification was caused by Govt. mishandling, inconsistency of provisions was prejudicial to bidders and detrimental to competitive bidding system. Therefore, contract award made on basis of regulation to low bidder at its reduced telegraphic



**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Competitive system—Continued****Effect of erroneous awards—Continued**

price pursuant to par. 2-305 of regulation, although second low bidder's telegraphic modified bid price was lower, both modifications having been timely received by Western Union but not delivered until after bid opening, should be canceled and procurement resolicited only from two involved concerns.-----

42

**Negotiated contracts. (See Contracts, negotiation, competition)****Prebid conferences**

Mandatory requirements to attend prebid conference contained in request for proposals for purpose of explaining extremely complex project may not be considered condition precedent to submission of proposal, as conditions or requirements that tend to restrict competition are unauthorized unless reasonably necessary to accomplish legislative purposes of contract appropriation involved or are expressly authorized by statute. To satisfy maximum competitive requirements of Federal Procurement Regs., prospective offeror who failed to attend conference should be permitted to submit proposal and given copy of prebid transcript. However, date for receipt of proposals having passed, new closing date should be set to enable firm denied opportunity to participate to submit proposal, and responding offerors to revise proposals.-----

355

**Preservation of system's integrity**

Data contained in literature that was not prepared to quote back salient features of brand name model but was published to disseminate information to public does not constitute sufficient descriptive literature for purpose of determining whether product equals brand name. Furthermore, offer to conform does not satisfy descriptive literature requirement of brand name or equal clause for detailed information, and submission of data after bid opening may not be considered under fundamental principle of competitive bidding system that responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid without reference to extraneous aids or explanation submitted after bid opening, in fairness to those bidders whose offers strictly complied with all solicitation requirements.-----

193

**Price no substitute for competition**

Awards made under sales invitation for bids on basis of lots drawn by three bidders who had submitted identical bids because there was no other evidence of collusive bidding, where Justice Dept. had taken no action on report of receipt of identical bids, and bid prices submitted were reasonable, were not proper, even though provisions of DOD Manual 4160.21-M were followed. Although awards will not be disturbed, steps should be taken to obtain in future surplus sales the full and unrestricted competition contemplated by competitive bidding system and to avoid acceptance of reasonable bid prices as substitute for adequate competition; and if circumstances do not permit reasonable determination that price competition was adequate, sale should be resolicited.-----

382

**Qualified products use**

Proposed "NASA Microelectronics Reliability Program" that would establish Qualified Products List for microcircuits and require production line certification of manufacturers prior to procurement although restrictive of competition is considered acceptable on basis of agency

**BIDS—Continued****Page****Competitive system—Continued****Qualified products use—Continued**

need since testing of microcircuits to determine extremely high level of quality and reliability assurance demanded by space program is either impossible or impractical and criticality of product justifies pre-qualification procedures. Therefore, restriction on competition resulting from program is not unreasonable or invalid restriction in conflict with 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and 10 U.S.C. 2305(a) and (b). However, as line certification is departure from normal procedures, right is reserved to give matter further consideration-----

542

**Construction****Two possible interpretations of bid**

Principles applicable to interpretation of existing contracts may not be applied to determine whether bid is responsive, and responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid itself without reference to matters extraneous to bid-----

379

**Contracts, generally. (See Contracts)****Delivery provisions****Packaging and packing requirements****Deviation acceptability**

Low alternate bid offering to use polyethylene bags with Kraft paper overwrap in lieu of cartons to ship fuel-resistant baffle material satisfying packaging and packing requirements set forth in applicable military specifications and included in invitation for bids, neither of which spelled out type of material or construction of container, was responsive bid, acceptance of which was proper. Invitation for bids did not require use of fiberboard cartons and military specifications require only that materials be packed in manner to insure acceptance by common carrier and provide protection against damage during shipment. Furthermore, overwrapped polyethylene bags constitute "containers" within meaning of "Glossary of Packaging Terms" and par. 1-1204 of Armed Services Procurement Reg-----

140

Deviations from advertised specifications. (See Contracts, specifications, deviations)

**Discarding all bids****Administrative determination****No obligation to accept any bids**

Rejection of all bids because they failed to conform to essential requirements of invitation for pumping station, which invitation had been revised by six amendments, and changes and clarifications made in specifications before readvertising canceled invitation, in order to overcome difficulties of obtaining responsive bids, were proper actions within responsibility of administrative officers of purchasing agency in absence of clear proof that exercise of administrative discretion was abused. An invitation for bids does not import any obligation on Govt. to accept any of offers received; and where bids received are nonresponsive because specifications are inadequate or ambiguous to extent bidders are prevented from submitting responsive bids, there is cogent reason to discard all bids-----

464

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Discarding all bids—Continued**

**Davis-Bacon Act suspension**

Discarding of all bids for construction of family housing at military installation under invitation that contained prescribed minimum wage rates determined by Secretary of Labor for laborers and mechanics in accordance with Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, because of Presidential Proclamation 4031, dated Feb. 23, 1971, which suspended act, and reissuance of invitation without requirements of act were actions in public interest within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2305(c), and Proclamation was compelling reason contemplated by par. 2-404.1 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that justified cancellation of invitation for bids-----

634

**Late arrival of bid modification**

Where invitation for bids provided for consideration of late bid modification only if delay was due to Western Union and par. 2-303.4 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., in effect at time, provided for consideration only if late receipt of modification was caused by Govt. mishandling, inconsistency of provisions was prejudicial to bidders and detrimental to competitive bidding system. Therefore, contract award made on basis of regulation to low bidder at its reduced telegraphic price pursuant to par. 2-305 of regulation, although second low bidder's telegraphic modified bid price was lower, both modifications having been timely received by Western Union but not delivered until after bid opening, should be canceled and procurement resolicited only from two involved concerns-----

42

**Needs of Government not properly stated**

Invitation for bids that states required man-year level of effort to perform engineering services for systems and program definition of combat systems maintenance training facility at erroneously fixed rather than estimated level, fails to show Govt.'s minimum needs and, therefore, successful contractor would be unable to produce results required in view of correlation between level of effort and ultimate work product. Failure to accurately reflect man-year level of effort required constitutes compelling reason for canceling invitation contemplated by par. 2-404.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and for readvertisement of procurement. However, cancellation emphasizes need for effective administrative definition and expression of Govt.'s requirements during procurement planning process-----

50

**"One Responsive Bid" clause**

Cancellation, pursuant to par. 2-404.1(b)(viii) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. as being in best interest of Govt., of invitation for bids that contained "One Responsive Bid" clause to assure adequate price competition, and resolicitation of procurement when low bid was determined to be nonresponsive and only other bid received excessively priced, was in accord with par. 2-404.2(e) ASPR, which authorizes rejection of unreasonably priced bids, and was proper, even though initially the reasons for cancellation of invitation should have been advanced, as par 2-404.1(b)(viii) is not self-executing, and clause should not have been used as it only created uncertainty and was superfluous because mere recitation of clause did not establish sufficient reason for bid rejection and resolicitation of procurement-----

177

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Discarding all bids—Continued****Reinstatement****Davis-Bacon Act suspension revoked**

Low bidder under invitation for bids that was canceled upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, dated Feb. 23, 1971, which suspended provisions of Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, who is second low bidder under reissued invitation is not entitled to award under canceled invitation when Presidential Proclamation 4040 of Mar. 29, 1971 revoked suspension of act. Presidential Proclamation 4040 effectively revoked Davis-Bacon Act only as to construction contracts for which solicitations for bids or proposals were issued after Mar. 29, 1971, and implementing Defense Dept. regulation confirms that solicitations issued after Feb. 23, 1971, but before Mar. 30, 1971, shall not contain Davis-Bacon Act provisions and, therefore, award to lowest responsive, responsive bidder under reissued invitation would be in accordance with intent of proclamation and regulation.....

798

**Specifications defective****Federal Procurement Regulations requirements**

Invitation for installation of heavy equipment replacements that omitted Davis-Bacon Act on basis procurement did not contemplate construction, alteration, or repair of public building, and incorporated provisions of Walsh-Healey Act, which requires contractor to be manufacturer of or regular dealer in equipment to be supplied, and provision for bidders to attest to their experience and competency should be canceled and reissued by contracting agency under guidelines in sec. 1-12.402-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for determining whether substantial amounts of construction, alteration, or repair work would be involved, also taking into consideration fact that no bidder qualified as manufacturer or dealer to be eligible for award, and that solicitation in requiring experience and competency attestation was unduly restrictive of competition.....

807

**Needs not properly stated**

Rejection of all bids because they failed to conform to essential requirements of invitation for pumping station, which invitation had been revised by six amendments, and changes and clarifications made in specifications before readvertising canceled invitation, in order to overcome difficulties of obtaining responsive bids, were proper actions within responsibility of administrative officers of purchasing agency in absence of clear proof that exercise of administrative discretion was abused. An invitation for bids does not import any obligation on Govt. to accept any of offers received; and where bids received are nonresponsive because specifications are inadequate or ambiguous to extent bidders are prevented from submitting responsive bids, there is cogent reason to discard all bids.....

484

**Needs overstated**

The discarding of all bids for movement or storage of personal property by naval installation upon discovering that item in one of three service schedules was 100 percent overstated in invitation for bids was proper administrative determination pursuant to par. 2-404.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., notwithstanding protesting bidder may not be qualified bidder, as any bidder may properly bring to atten-

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Discarding all bids—Continued**

**Specifications defective—Continued**

**Needs overstated—Continued**

tion of concerned Govt. officials any factor indicating that particular procurement action is defective. Also since reissued invitation contained erroneous weight estimate and misstated actual operating authorities necessary to perform solicited services, this second invitation, too, may be canceled.....

753

**Specifications restrictive**

**Bidder license requirements**

Bidder who could not certify that it had or could obtain prior to award, necessary ICC authority in its own name as required by invitation for bids (IFB) for movement or storage of household effects and therefore would have to rely on subcontractors to furnish services it could not perform is nonresponsive bidder, notwithstanding subcontracting clause of IFB permits qualified bidder after obtaining award to subcontract with prior approval of contracting officer as subcontracting clause does not purport to modify requirement that prospective contractor possess necessary operating authority prior to award. However, since award is recommended to bidder unable to comply with 100 percent operating authority requirement, requirement appears unessential and unduly restrictive of competition and, therefore, IFB should be canceled and resolicited.....

753

**Evaluation**

**Aggregate v. separable items, prices, etc.**

**Evaluation formula erroneous**

Invitation for bids issued pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 252(c) that requested lump-sum bids for construction of campus facilities (base bid), plus bids on each of four additive items, and indicated award for base bid, plus additives, if any, would be made to low bidder on base bid without regard to his overall bid price, did not conform with requirements in 41 U.S.C. 253(b) that award should be made to responsible bidder whose bid "will be most advantageous to Govt., price and other factors considered." Therefore, award for facilities and additives to lowest overall bidder who was not low on base bid would be proper and in accord with sec. 253(b), as lowest bidder must be measured by total work to be awarded in order to obtain benefits of full competition, which is purpose of public procurement statutes.....

583

**Basis for evaluation**

**Bid itself**

Principles applicable to interpretation of existing contracts may not be applied to determine whether bid is responsive, and responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid itself without reference to matters extraneous to bid.....

379

**Buy American Act. (See Bids, Buy American Act, evaluation)**

**Delivery provisions**

**Parcel post costs**

When a procurement item is shipped by parcel post under Govt. mailing indicia pursuant to par. 19-403.3(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., transportation costs as bid evaluation factor are eliminated, even though eventually contracting agency is required to reimburse Post Office Department for postal services.....

447

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Evaluation—Continued****Delivery provisions—Continued****Reasonable delivery date**

Under invitation for bids (IFB) that stated that delivery was desired within 120 days, but was required within 150 days; that bidders may propose different date but not beyond 150 days; and that if no delivery date was offered, desired 120 days would apply, offer of delivery within "approximately 120 days" takes exception to desired schedule and fails to state definite delivery date, and bid is nonresponsive. To interpret "approximately 120 days" to mean time period not substantially varying from 120 days, and that in no case would delivery period extend beyond 150 days, requires reasonableness test that would result in uneven or unpredictable treatment of bidders; whereas terms of IFB demand that ascertainment of time chosen by bidder be made on objective basis without recourse to subjective processes of evaluation involved in application of reasonableness test.

379

**Factors other than price****Notice of factors to bidders**

Use of phrase "other factors considered" pursuant to par. 2-407.1 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., implementing 10 U.S.C. 2305, does not authorize award of contracts under advertised procurements to other than low, responsive, qualified bidder; and when bids are to be evaluated on some basis in addition to price, it is required that those additional factors and relative importance to be attached to each factor be clearly stated in invitation so all bidders are aware of factors in preparation of their bids.

447

**Information after bid opening**

Data contained in literature that was not prepared to quote back salient features of brand name model but was published to disseminate information to public does not constitute sufficient descriptive literature for purpose of determining whether product equals brand name. Furthermore, offer to conform does not satisfy descriptive literature requirement of brand name or equal clause for detailed information, and submission of data after bid opening may not be considered under fundamental principle of competitive bidding system that responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid without reference to extraneous aids or explanation submitted after bid opening, in fairness to those bidders whose offers strictly complied with all solicitation requirements.

193

**Method of evaluation defective, etc.****Evaluation factors uncertain**

Request for proposals that failed to include evaluation criteria or indicate criteria's relative importance because of erroneous belief these standards were inapplicable to civilian procurement was defective and was not in accordance with sound procurement policy and public interest. Also scoring of offer by comparison with predetermined score, overlooked that primary consideration in negotiated procurement is discussion with all offerors in competitive range and that borderline cases should not automatically be excluded from consideration, and as result maximum competition was not obtained. Request for proposals should be amended to establish omitted criteria and offerors permitted to sub-

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Evaluation—Continued**

**Method of evaluation defective, etc—Continued**

**Evaluation factors uncertain—Continued**

mit additional information or revise proposals, and if within competitive range, afforded opportunity for discussion to extent required by sec. 1-3.802(c) of Federal Procurement Regs.-----

59

Negotiation. (See Contracts, negotiation, evaluation factors)

Qualified bids. (See Bids, qualified)

**Worldwide performance locations**

Invitation for bids that contemplates construction type requirements contract for reconditioning and maintenance of radomes located worldwide, and which requested one bid price for each type service for particular size radome regardless of location and made site inspection impracticable, is not deficient invitation and need not be revised to require separate bids for more than 200 possible performance sites—an insurmountable administrative workload—to allow for varying travel and transportation expense factors since regardless of location, work is essentially same at each site, making site inspections unnecessary, and scheduling of service consecutively for adjacent locations will minimize travel expenses. Requirements contracts are valid and contracting agency unable to state locations and performance dates, having estimated its requirements in good faith may make award under invitation-----

830

Failure to furnish something required. (See Contracts, specifications, failure to furnish something required)

**Forms**

Bid forms. (See Bids, bid forms)

**Identical**

**Lot drawing basis for award**

Awards made under sales invitation for bids on basis of lots drawn by three bidders who had submitted identical bids because there was no other evidence of collusive bidding, where Justice Dept. had taken no action on report of receipt of identical bids, and bid prices submitted were reasonable, were not proper, even though provisions of DOD Manual 4160.21-M were followed. Although awards will not be disturbed, steps should be taken to obtain in future surplus sales the full and unrestricted competition contemplated by competitive bidding system and to avoid acceptance of reasonable bid prices as substitute for adequate competition; and if circumstances do not permit reasonable determination that price competition was adequate, sale should be resolicited-----

882

Labor stipulations. (See Contracts, labor stipulations)

Labor surplus area performance. (See Contracts, awards, labor surplus areas)

**Late**

**Mail delivery evidence**

**Certified mail**

Mere fact that delivery of test mailings subsequent to bid opening involved more time than reported by postmaster of delivering post office to be normal delivery time does not render incorrect the statement of destination post office concerning normal delivery time on bid opening date -----

825

**BIDS—Continued**

**Page**

**Late—Continued**

**Mishandling determination**

**Bids received at one place for delivery to another place**

Bid sent by certified mail that was not directed to bid opening room or did not list information required by invitation, and which although timely delivered to mail room, as shown by Post Office Dept. form considered acceptable documentary evidence, was not identified until after bids were opened, may be considered on basis that failure to recognize from corporate name and size of envelope that envelope contained bid constitutes Govt. mishandling, and that lapse of time between receipt, opening, and delivery of bid was unreasonable for certified mail, and fact that price alteration was uninitialed does not require rejection of low bid where intended bid price is not in doubt and remained low, and there is no indication bidder had opportunity to reclaim and alter bid---

71

Determination to open late bid received on one of two technical proposals submitted under first step of two-step procurement and found acceptable, even though equipment offered did not meet all details of specifications, was proper since delay in delivery of bid received more than 24 hours before bid opening was due to Govt. mishandling. Although bid was accompanied by covering letter and unsolicited descriptive literature at variance with specifications, it is nevertheless responsive bid; for it is inconceivable that low bidder, who had qualified under first step, would disqualify itself in second step and, therefore, deviating material is viewed as attempt to identify which of two accepted first-step proposals was being priced in second step.-----

337

**Negotiated procurement. (See Contracts, negotiation, late proposals and quotations)**

**Prior telegram referring to bid**

Receipt before opening bids of telegraphic notice advising that bid is en route, or of telegram modifying bid, does not constitute basis for accepting bid received after opening of bids. Whether bid should be considered as acceptable late bid depends upon whether bid meets requirements of late bid regulations set forth in par. 2-303 of Armed Services Procurement Reg.-----

325

**Return to sender**

**Bid consideration**

Return unopened to bidder of late bid that had been forwarded by certified mail, where prior to bid opening a modifying telegram had been received, without compliance by certifying officer with late bid regulations that require bidder to be notified and given opportunity to furnish original certified mail receipt and that require mail delivery information to be obtained from post office in order to determine acceptability of late bid in accordance with criteria in par. 2-3033(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., was unjustified. Notwithstanding possibility of tampering with bid once it leaves Govt.'s custody, late bids unjustifiably returned are not *prima facie* unacceptable; and on basis of proof that late bid should have been timely delivered, and that sealed bid envelope had not been opened, late bid may be considered for award. Prior conflicting decisions are modified.-----

325



**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Late—Continued**

**Telegraphic modifications**

**Delay due to Western Union**

Bid reduction received at base exchange telegraph office operated under contract for Western Union, which although timely received could not be delivered before opening of bids as telephone line to procurement office was busy, may not be considered in determining low bid. Both invitation provisions and par. 2-303 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. provide for consideration of late telegraphic modification when delay is due to Govt. mishandling but preclude consideration of late telegraphic bids or modification when delay is caused by telegraph company, and under contract, post exchange, instrumentality of U.S. for some purposes, and its employees act as agent of Western Union, and delay, therefore, is attributable to Western Union and price reduction may not be considered.....

76

**Inconsistent provisions**

Where invitation for bids provided for consideration of late bid modification only if delay was due to Western Union and par. 2-303.4 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., in effect at time, provided for consideration only if late receipt of modification was caused by Govt. mishandling, inconsistency of provisions was prejudicial to bidders and detrimental to competitive bidding system. Therefore, contract award made on basis of regulation to low bidder at its reduced telegraphic price pursuant to par. 2-305 of regulation, although second low bidder's telegraphic modified bid price was lower, both modifications having been timely received by Western Union but not delivered until after bid opening, should be canceled and procurement resolicited only from two involved concerns.....

42

**Mistakes**

**Allegation after award. (See Contracts, mistakes)**

**Correction**

**General rule**

Bid submitted under invitation that incorporated Service Contract Act clause prescribed by par. 2-1004 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which provided for application of pertinent Dept. of Labor wage determination, and included information relating to "Successor Employers' Collective Bargaining Obligations"—information bidder overlooked in preparing bid—may be withdrawn under mistake in bid principles enunciated in *Ruggiero v. U.S.*, 420 F. 2d 709, to effect law of mistaken bids includes mistakes which are inexplicable, and rule does not turn on any fault or ambiguity in specifications nor need contractor be free from blame. Therefore, since bidder was entitled to give consideration to impact of union agreement upon performance costs, and bid may not be corrected as agreed union rates were not factor in bid preparation, bid may be withdrawn from consideration.....

655

**Modification**

**Ambiguous**

Telegraphic modification of bid on Govt. surplus property, which read "Increase Item 13 bid \$8900," is ambiguous modification, as it can be interpreted to increase original bid "by" \$8900 or "to" \$8900; and tele-

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Modification—Continued****Ambiguous—Continued**

gram, therefore, should be disregarded in determining highest bidder on item. Telegraphic bid modification reasonably susceptible of two varying interpretations, one only making bid price high, it would be prejudicial to other bidders to permit bidder who created ambiguity to select after bid opening the interpretation to be adopted.....

302

**Telegraphic**

Late receipt. (*See Bids, late, telegraphic modifications*)

Negotiation matters. (*See Contracts, negotiation*)

**Omissions****Prices in bid**

Failure to submit price for one of four military installations at which delivery is to be made of coveralls solicited under invitation that requested individual prices on quantities specified for each installation is not clerical oversight that may be waived as minor irregularity pursuant to par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and omitted price may not be inserted on basis single price quoted for other three installations applies to entire quantity solicited because bidder had checked block captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none" in bid form, nor may nonresponsive bid be considered for partial award. As award of whole contract is in best interests of Govt., it may be made to responsive and responsible bidder offering low aggregate bid whose per unit net price for entire procurement is reasonable although slightly higher than that of nonresponsive bidder.....

852

**Options**

Exercise of option. (*See Contracts, options*)

Peddling. (*See Contracts, subcontracts, bid shopping*)

**Prebid conference effect**

Mandatory requirement to attend prebid conference contained in request for proposals for purpose of explaining extremely complex project may not be considered condition precedent to submission of proposal, as conditions or requirements that tend to restrict competition are unauthorized unless reasonably necessary to accomplish legislative purposes of contract appropriation involved or are expressly authorized by statute. To satisfy maximum competitive requirements of Federal Procurement Regs., prospective offeror who failed to attend conference should be permitted to submit proposal and given copy of prebid transcript. However, date for receipt of proposals having passed, new closing date should be set to enable firm denied opportunity to participate to submit proposal, and responding offerors to revise proposals.....

355

**Prices**

Block bidding. (*See Bids, block bidding*)

**"Buying in" basis**

Where low bid price had been confirmed, negating existence of mistake, suspicion of "buying in" does not require rejection of bid because low bidder submitted unprofitable price. Par. 1-311(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. in defining "buying in" as practice of attempting to obtain contract award by knowingly offering price or cost estimate less than anticipated costs with expectation of recovering any losses, either during contract performance or in future "follow-on" contracts,

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Prices—Continued**

**"Buying in" basis—Continued**

does not provide for bid rejection and, therefore, there is no legal basis upon which award may be precluded or disturbed because low bidder submitted unprofitable price.....

50

**Qualified**

**Ambiguous bid**

Unsolicited insertion of plant part numbers in low bid to furnish engine air filters without express statement that specifications would be complied with created ambiguity that may not be resolved by reference to "catalog cut sheets" and other data available to Govt. before bid opening, as reliance on this information would afford bidder option to affect responsiveness of bid—an option detrimental to the competitive bidding system. Therefore, as contracting officer cannot determine whether bidder offered conforming article or that part numbers were included for purpose of internal control, bid is considered qualified bid and may not be considered for award.....

8

**Interest on past due invoices**

Rejection of bid under solicitation issued for Federal Supply Schedule contract to furnish wood office furniture because of inclusion of qualifying provision "1½% interest per month on past due invoices," which contracting officer refused to delete, was proper under sec. 1-2.404-2(b) (5) of Federal Procurement Regs. Regulation provides for rejection of bid if bidder imposes conditions which would modify requirements of invitation, or limit his liability or rights of Govt. to his advantage, and although objectionable conditions may be deleted if they do not go to substance of bid—that is, that they only have trivial or negligible effect on price, quantity, quality, or delivery—condition imposed affected price and could not be deleted. Furthermore, contracting officer is without authority to obligate Govt. to pay interest on unpaid invoices. 5 Comp. Gen. 649, modified.....

733

**Letter containing conditions not in invitation**

Determination to open late bid received on one of two technical proposals submitted under first step of two-step procurement and found acceptable, even though equipment offered did not meet all details of specifications, was proper since delay in delivery of bid received more than 24 hours before bid opening was due to Govt. mishandling. Although bid was accompanied by covering letter and unsolicited descriptive literature at variance with specifications, it is nevertheless responsive bid; for it is inconceivable that low bidder, who had qualified under first step, would disqualify itself in second step and, therefore, deviating material is viewed as attempt to identify which of two accepted first-step proposals was being priced in second step.....

337

**Qualified products. (See Contracts, specifications, qualified products)**

**Sales. (See Sales)**

**Samples. (See Contracts, specifications, samples)**

**Signatures**

**Agents**

**Authority. (See Agents, of private parties, authority, contracts, signatures)**

**Small business concerns. (See Contracts, awards, small business concerns)**

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

Specifications. (*See* Contracts, specifications)Surplus property. (*See* Sales)"Two bites at the apple." (*See* Contracts, specifications, failure to furnish something required, information)**Two-step procurement****Changes in requirements****Notice**

Requirement in par. 2-208(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR) that amendments to invitations for bids must be sent to everyone to whom invitations had been furnished has reference to amendments issued under competitive system prior to opening of bids; and, therefore, amendment issued after closing date for receipt of technical proposals to only two concerns out of 37 potential suppliers solicited under first step of two-step procurement who had responded to Request for Technical Proposals (RFTP) was proper and in accord with ASPR 3-805.1(e), relative to changes occurring in requirements during negotiations. In fact, if firms who had not responded to RFTP had been furnished copies of amendment and responded, provisions of "Late Proposals and Modifications" clause would be for application-----

346

**Second step****Deviating from first step**

Determination to open late bid received on one of two technical proposals submitted under first step of two-step procurement and found acceptable, even though equipment offered did not meet all details of specifications, was proper since delay in delivery of bid received more than 24 hours before bid opening was due to Govt. mishandling. Although bid was accompanied by covering letter and unsolicited descriptive literature at variance with specifications, it is nevertheless responsive bid; for it is inconceivable that low bidder, who had qualified under first step, would disqualify itself in second step and, therefore, deviating material is viewed as attempt to identify which of two accepted first-step proposals was being priced in second step-----

337

**Technical proposals****Deficiencies****Minor deviations**

Minor revision of unpriced technical proposal, first-step of two-step procurement for retrieval system, that had initially been found unacceptable was not prejudicial to other bidders for Govt. under procedure contemplated by par. 2-503.1 is free to discuss submitted proposal with offeror if clarification or additional information will bring proposal to acceptable status since two-step procedure extends benefits of advertising to procurements previously negotiated, and while second-step of procedure is conducted in accordance with formal advertising, first-step contemplates maximizing competition. Therefore, low bidder originally incorrectly placed in unacceptable category, having submitted acceptable technical proposal and confirmed extremely low price bid may properly be awarded contract-----

866

**BIDS—Continued**

Page

**Two-step procurement—Continued**

**Technical proposals—Continued**

**Qualification requirements**

Under letter request, first step of two-step procurement, which contained "Bidder's Technical Qualification Clause" stating technical proposals would be accepted only from those contractors who have manufactured and can demonstrate at operating airfield a Solid State Conventional Instrument Landing System, evaluation of capabilities of prime contractor and its subcontractor—French firm who manufactured and demonstrated system in France—although within policy enunciated in par. 4-117 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which recognizes integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements, was contrary to intent of clause, and proposal premised on subcontractor's system should not have been considered. Therefore, in future procurements, clause should specify permissible relationships or refer to ASPR provision-----

163

**Use basis**

**Administrative authority**

While second step of two-step method of procurement is conducted under principles of formal advertising pursuant to par. 2-503.2 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., first step of procedure, in furtherance of goal of maximized competition, contemplates qualification of as many technical proposals as possible under negotiation procedures; and as this two-step procedure is intended to extend benefits of competitive advertising to procurements which previously were either negotiated competitively or negotiated on sole source basis, determination how to best satisfy Govt.'s requirements is within ambit of sound administrative discretion, and use of two-step procedure will not be questioned when supported by record-----

346

**Injunction to prevent**

Offeror who was granted court injunction to prevent opening of bids and award of contract under two-step procurement, and who protested use of two-step method to obtain ship's hull side blast-cleaning unit, stating Navy was required pursuant to pars. 3-108 and 3-214 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. to negotiate sole source contract with it as developer of unit, has no basis for objection. Secretary only has authority to determine that sole source procurement to avoid duplication of investment and effort is justified, and evidence did not warrant invoking his authority; and as conditions prescribed in par. 2-502(a) of regulation for use of two-step method of procurement existed, determination to use this method was within cognizance of procurement officers-----

346

**BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS**

**Members**

**Appointment limitations**

An attorney in private practice serving 3-year term as member of Advisory Council on Urban Transportation, Dept. of Transportation, established by Pub. L. 89-670, and which meets only a few days each year, who is paid per diem on "when-actually-employed basis" and travel expenses is ineligible to serve on National Water Commission, even if different days are devoted to intermittent service for each agency, as Council member is considered to have status similar to that of intermittent consultant employed and compensated on daily basis and held to

<b>BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS—Continued</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Members—Continued</b>	
<b>Appointment limitations—Continued</b>	
be officer or employee of U.S., and, therefore, is prohibited from accepting appointment with Commission by language of National Water Commission Act that "no member of the Commission, during his period of service on the Commission, hold any other position as an officer or employee of the United States * * *."	736
<b>BONDS</b>	
<b>Bid</b>	
Joint venture	
<b>Bid acceptability</b>	
Low bid submitted under total small business set-aside for Air Force Base construction project which bore three names of joint venture shown in bid bond accompanying bid, but was signed by president of only small business concern involved, may not be awarded to either joint venture or small business concern on basis two large business firms had associated with small business concern only for purpose of obtaining bid bond. As to joint venture, there was none at time of bid submission or opening, and subsequently submitted information could not create joint venture for purpose of bid ratification—even if it could, joint venture as large concern would be ineligible for award, nor would award to small concern be proper as bid bond named joint venture as principal.	530
<b>BRIDGES</b>	
<b>Construction</b>	
Necessitated by highway relocation	
As replacement highway bridge over Cross-Florida Barge Canal is required to be constructed in accordance with sec. 207(c), Pub. L. 87-874, Oct. 23, 1962, which limits construction of replacement facility to State design standards that apply to roads of same classification, determined on basis of traffic existing at time of taking, approval by Corps of Engineers of two two-lane bridges to be constructed at Govt. expense in lieu of existing two-lane highway in order to accommodate future growth constitutes betterment of facility in contravention of sec. 207(c) and, therefore, funds available to Corps may not be used to construct second bridge, whether or not design standard was in actual practice or published. However, State standards that provide for range of traffic rather than projected future traffic count are acceptable.	661
<b>BUY AMERICAN ACT</b>	
<b>Applicability</b>	
Contractors' purchases from foreign sources	
<b>Effect</b>	
Procedure that invites bidders and offerors to furnish surgical steel blades made from either domestic carbon steel or imported stainless steel without indicating preference, leaving determination of availability of domestic steel to bidders or offerors, is defective procedure as composition of steel selected for end product is, under definition in par. 6-001 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., component of end product and subject to restrictions of Buy American Act, 41 U.S.C. 10a-d. Therefore, when carbon steel is available, restrictions of act may not be waived for product manufactured in U.S. from foreign steel. Furthermore, determination to exempt item from restrictions of act must, in accordance with ASPR 6-103.2(a), be included in solicitation.	239
<b>Bids. (See Bids, Buy American Act)</b>	
<b>Contracts. (See Contracts, Buy American Act)</b>	

**CANAL ZONE**

Page

**Employees**

**Hired overseas**

**Residence in United States, etc.**

Former employee of Canal Zone Govt. whose place of actual residence was in California, but who at time of appointment was temporarily residing in Costa Rica, and who had transported his household goods to Costa Rica in his own truck prior to signing employment agreement, which he signed in Costa Rica prior to travel to Canal Zone, may be reimbursed travel and transportation expenses from Costa Rica to Canal Zone in accordance with provisions of Office of Management and Budget Cir. No. A-56, but he may not be reimbursed expenses of moving from California to Costa Rica since these expenses were not incurred in anticipation of his appointment in Canal Zone.....

644

**CHECKS**

**Endorsement**

**Other than payee**

**Tax refund**

Liability for proceeds of income tax refund check bearing only initials of husband and wife still married but separated at time of endorsement by husband and deposited in joint account with his mother, whose initials were similar to wife's, is for determination by Federal and not State law in interest of uniformity. Although use of initials did not facilitate forgery and ordinarily cashing bank would be required to refund one-half of check, as in "same name cases," reclamation proceedings against bank are not required since joint income tax is treated as return of single individual and payment to husband as one of joint obligees extinguished liability of Govt. for tax overpayment, and ownership rights of spouses are for determination by local law in appropriate proceedings.....

441

**CITIES, CORPORATE LIMITS**

**Erroneous determinations**

**Retroactive adjustments**

Treatment of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, located 40 miles apart, as one installation with one staff which resulted in movement of military and civilian personnel freely between both installations without competent orders directing permanent change-of-station or performance of temporary duty may not be corrected by issuance of retroactive orders to confirm assignments and authorize travel allowances for temporary duty or permanent change-of-station allowances incident to assignments, even though for purposes of Joint Travel Regs., installations are considered different stations since retroactive orders would be without effect to change vested rights of personnel involved.....

803

**CLAIMS**

**Assignment**

**Federal grants-in-aid**

**Legality of assignment**

Amounts due or to become due under grants of Federal funds to medical college for construction and restoration of facilities authorized by Public Health Service Act, as amended, may be assigned to bank pursuant to Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, to enable grantee to obtain interim financing for purpose of making progress payments to contractor, as acceptance of grant subject to conditions imposed

**CLAIMS—Continued**

Page

**Assignment—Continued****Federal grants-in-aid—Continued****Legality of assignment—Continued**

by Govt. created valid contract within meaning of 1940 act, and as assignment is not forbidden under grant. However, in accordance with requirements of act, assignment should cover amount payable under grants without regard to status of account between college and bank; and, furthermore, grantee is not foreclosed from financing non-Federal share of costs with borrowed funds-----

470

**"Financing Institutions" requirement****Pension funds**

Assignment of moneys to become due from U.S. under lease agreement may be made to Public Employees' Retirement System and State Teacher's Retirement System of State of California using trust funds to furnish permanent financing for building being constructed for Govt. The Systems qualify as "financing institutions" within purview of Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 203, as nothing in act indicates exclusion of pension funds, and primary functions of trust corpus, together with trustees, is investing of assets of trust. However, act limits assignment to one party, "except that any such assignment may be made to one party as agent or trustee for two or more parties participating in such financing."-----

613

**Fraud perpetrated by assignor****Government's liability**

Since under Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, Govt. is not insurer as to fraudulent schemes devised by assignor against assignee, nor is Govt. required to involve assignee in matters of contract administration, claim for amount of fictitious invoices presented by assignee of drayage company performing services for Govt., which were retrieved by assignor prior to payment, may not be honored as record presents no grounds to impute negligence to or assert estoppel against Govt., but instead raises doubt as to validity of assignee's claim. Although claim must be rejected, as jurisdiction of GAO to pay claims is based upon legal liability of U.S., assignee's right to see judicial determination of its claim is not prejudiced-----

434

**Doubtful****Compensation****Procedure for handling**

Claims for 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates that are presented to Corps of Engineers by civilian wage board employees who performed 24-hour tours of duty on dredges and other floating plants, receiving compensation for only 8 hours of work on straight-time basis may be paid, if properly documented, by Corps on basis of two-thirds rule in *Detling* and *France* consolidated cases, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970). However, doubtful claims should be forwarded for settlement to Claims Division of U.S. GAO pursuant to 4 GAO 5.1, and when 10-year limitation act of Oct. 9, 1940 is involved and claims cannot be promptly approved and paid in full amount claimed, they should be forwarded to Claims Division for recording under 4 GAO 7.1, and after recording claims will be returned to Corps for payment, denial, or referral back to GAO for adjudication-----

767



**CLAIMS—Continued**

Page

**Evidence to support**

**Best evidence available**

**Acceptability**

Where claims of civilian wage board employees of Corps of Engineers for 8 hours overtime compensation, which are presented on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling* and *France*, 432 F. 2d 462, incident to 24-hour port watch aboard hopper dredges or other floating plants and receipt of only 8 hours straight-time compensation, cannot be adequately documented, payment may be made by Corps on basis of most accurate estimate after considering all available records. For example, if time and attendance records are missing for some part of period claimed but available pay and leave records support reasonably accurate estimates of standby duty, estimates will be considered sufficiently documented, or where no signed logs can be found for standby duty claimed, next best evidence—duty rosters—may be used to substantiate payment of overtime.....

767

**Settlement by General Accounting Office**

**Claim denied**

Claim submitted for consideration under settlement authority in 31 U.S.C. 71 for additional compensation to cover required correction in printing of technical publication, which had been disallowed by contracting officer and appeal to disallowance denied by administrative officer, may not be paid on basis prior uncorrected orders had been accepted, where record shows contractor agreed to correct error without cost to Govt., and supplemental agreement providing charge for work—insertion of fold-ins in publication in indicated sequence—has reference to future orders. Furthermore, alleged subsequent oral agreement may not be considered, as review is restricted to record before contracting agency at time the head of agency rendered decision.....

369

**Statutes of limitation. (See Statutes of Limitation, claims)**

**COAST GUARD**

**Enlisted personnel**

**Service credits**

**Inactive time**

Inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman time served before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man retiring either for years of service under 14 U.S.C. 291, 292, 354, or 355, for age pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 293 or 353, or for disability as provided in ch. 61, Title 10, U.S. Code, is not allowable for purpose of retirement. Sec. 291, in providing for voluntary retirement of commissioned officers after 20 years of service requires such service to have been "active service;" word "service" in secs. 292, 354, and 355, authorizing voluntary retirement for commissioned officers after 30 years, and for enlisted men after 30 or 20 years, has been interpreted since 1948 as "active service;" secs. 293 and 353 in providing for compulsory retirement at age 62 make no reference to years of service; and under 10 U.S.C. 1208 disability retirement is computed on basis of active service.....

308

Although inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman time served before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man retiring either for years of service, for age, or for disability, may not be credited for purpose of retirement, service counts for multiplier credit and in

**COAST GUARD—Continued**

Page

**Enlisted personnel—Continued****Service credits—Continued****Inactive time—Continued**

accordance with 14 U.S.C. 423, years of service are to be computed under 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), due to fact that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1333 such service is "service other than active service) in a reserve component of an armed force." However, full-time credit may not be given inactive service in determining multiplier factor under 14 U.S.C. 423 and 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), since service is subject to computation method provided in 10 U.S.C. 1333(4)-----

308

In crediting inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman service performed before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man for retirement purposes, there is no distinction to be drawn between status of "Cadet, MMR, USNR," or "Midshipman, MMR, USNR," inasmuch as persons having either status are regarded as members of U.S. Naval Reserve-----

308

**COLLECTIONS****Debt. (See Debt Collections)****COLLEGES, SCHOOLS, ETC.****Land grant colleges****Investments**

Since Federal City College is land grant college within purview of "First Morrill Act" as provided by Dist. of Columbia Education Act, land grant funds available to college are exempted from 47 D.C. Code 135, which directs investment in U.S. Treasury securities, and Congress in education act approved investment in accordance with land grant act in "bonds of the United States or of the States or some other safe bonds." "Other safe bonds" are obligations of various Federal agencies, other than Treasury securities, that are guaranteed by U.S., industrial bonds approved for investment by fiduciaries under Rules of U.S. Dist. Court, and certificates of deposit in federally insured banks, but not savings accounts in banks or savings and loan associations. Furthermore, deficiencies from investments may be made up from appropriations, and to minimize losses, bonds may be sold before maturity-----

712

Teachers employed by Defense Department overseas. (See Defense Department, teachers employed in areas overseas)

**Work study programs****Economic Opportunity Act****Agency participation apart from grant agreement**

Limitation in Economic Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 2754(b)) requiring that work-study grant agreements with institutions of higher education provide that "Federal share" of compensation of students employed in College Work-Study Program will not exceed 80 percentum of compensation paid to students, pertaining only to payments from grants made by Office of Education to institutions and not to payments made by other Federal agencies where students are employed, employing agencies may bear larger portion than 20 percent of student earnings so that grant funds may be spread over greater number of students. Whether agency should pay social security tax on its contribution to student's salary, and if so in what amount, is for determination by Commissioner of Internal Revenue Service-----

553

**COMPENSATION**

Page

**Additional**

**Environmental pay differential**

**Compensatory time in lieu**

Air National Guard technicians, whether they are wage or nongraded employees or General Schedule employees, who for 12-hour workday receive 4 hours compensatory time for work in excess of 8 hours a day, or receive compensatory time for 8-hour Sunday tour of duty, are not entitled to environmental differential pay, night shift differential pay, or premium pay, as 32 U.S.C. 709(g) in authorizing Secretary concerned to prescribe hours of duty for technicians and to fix their basic compensation or additional compensation, provides for granting of compensatory time in amount equal to time spent in irregular or overtime work with no compensation for compensatory time, since compensatory time is intended to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work-----

847

**Constitutes basic pay**

Environmental pay differential for dirty work having been authorized for Dist. of Columbia wage employees by proper wage fixing authority in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5341, and in conformity with commercial practices, differential may be considered basic pay, whether stated separately or included in scheduled rates, for purposes of computing wage board overtime and Sunday rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5544, the Civil Service Retirement Deductions authorized in 5 U.S.C. 8334, and for determining annual rate of pay for group life insurance provided in Federal Personnel Manual, Supp. 870-1, Subch. 83-3a, and differential may be paid to employees while in leave status-----

66

**Premium pay in lieu**

Air National Guard technician who assigned to 24-hour tour of duty at Air National Aircraft Control and Warning Site receives 12 percent annual premium pay under 32 U.S.C. 709(g), which is prescribed for unusual tours of duty, irregular duty, or additional duty, and work on days that are ordinarily nonworkdays, when exposed to duty in hazardous category is not entitled to environment differential pay since premium pay not to exceed 12 percent of basic pay is authorized to be paid in lieu of additional compensation, including differentials and overtime compensation -----

847

**Adjustment**

**Appointment erroneous**

Upon determination that employee who received excepted Schedule B appointment at grade GS-9 was discriminated against because of race or sex, which is expressly prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 7154(b) and 5 CFR 713.202, as she qualified for a GS-11 position and was assigned and performed work warranting a GS-11 classification, correction of personnel action and adjustment in pay is legally justified on basis original classification and appointment as GS-9 was illegal, and corrective action is not viewed as retroactive promotion such as ordinarily is prohibited by law-----

581

**Basic. (See Compensation, what constitutes)**

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Double****Civilian and disability compensation**

Regular Air Force sergeant retired pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8914, who while employed as civilian in Federal Govt. loses use of finger, is not entitled to concurrent payment of civilian disability compensation and military retired pay on basis the compensation would be paid for permanent partial disability and not temporary total disability, thus bringing payment within exception to dual payment prohibition contained in 5 U.S.C. 8116(a). In application of limitation in sec. 8116(a), there has been no recognition of distinction between temporary and permanent disability, as statute makes no such distinction insofar as concurrent receipt of military or naval retired pay is concerned, and legislation would have to be enacted to permit concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation.....

491

**Concurrent military retired and civilian service pay****Reduction in retired pay****Not required**

Although civilian position held by retired officer of Regular component of uniformed services in U.S. Army Special Services Agency, Europe—local nonappropriated fund activity—is position subject to reduction of retired pay prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5532(b), reduction is not required in officer's retired pay as reduction would exceed amount officer receives from civilian employment with additional reduction in retired pay, result that is not within contemplation of Dual Compensation Act of 1964, for it is unreasonable to require retired officer to accept smaller amount after employment in civilian position with Govt. than amount of retired pay he was receiving before that time.....

604

**Concurrent military retired pay and disability compensation. (See Officers and Employees, death or injury, disability compensation, etc.)****Exemptions****Dual Compensation Act****Disability "as a direct result of armed conflict," etc.**

Conclusion that exemption provision in Dual Compensation Act (5 U.S.C. 5532(c)) to requirement that retired pay of Regular officer must be reduced when employed as civilian by Federal Govt. (5 U.S.C. 5532(b)) applies only if retirement was direct result of armed conflict, or was caused by instrumentality of war in wartime, is justified on basis of legislative history of provision and its longstanding administrative interpretation; and, therefore, *Mross v. United States*, 186 Ct. Cl. 165, holding that disability—perforated eardrum—that was war-incurred but was not disabling and did not constitute significant factor in officer's retirement met requirements of exception to dual compensation restriction will not be followed as case is based on particular facts involved.....

480

**Military retired pay and civilian retirement**

A retired member of uniform services whose military service upon retirement from civilian employment is not used to establish civil service annuity eligibility but is only used in computation of annuity to increase amount payable, may withdraw his waiver of retired pay and have pay reinstated as no double benefit would result from same service by terminating use of military service to compute civil service annuity

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Double—Continued**

**Military retired pay and civilian retirement—Continued**  
and reinstating retired pay, and 5 U.S.C. 8332(e) provides that civil service retirement does not affect right of employee to retired pay, pension, or compensation in addition to annuity payable upon retirement from Federal civilian service-----

80

**Downgrading**

**Saved compensation**

**Temporary promotions**

Employee demoted from GS-5, step 9, to GS-4, step 10, with salary retention pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5337, who accepts temporary promotion and then returns to same grade to which initially demoted has not forfeited entitlement to salary retention authorized for 2 years by sec. 5337, retention period to commence on date of demotion, Sept. 16, 1968. Temporary promotion did not affect running of salary-retention period, as employee by virtue of temporary promotion is not considered as having become "entitled to a higher rate of basic pay by operation of" the classification law within meaning of 5 U.S.C. 5337—a bar to salary-retention coverage-----

82

**Highest previous rate. (See Compensation, rates, highest previous rate)**

**Increases**

**Retroactive**

**Employee separated prior to effective date of increase**

Employee of Federal Govt. who transferred to public international organization with reemployment rights under 5 U.S.C. 3582(b), prior to enactment of Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, is not entitled to retroactive salary adjustment authorized by act for employees on rolls on effective date of act—Apr. 15, 1970—condition precedent to entitlement. However, since under sec. 3582(b) employee who transfers to public international organization is guaranteed that upon reemployment compensation payable will not be less than if employee had remained on Govt. rolls, any salary adjustment required upon reemployment may include retroactive salary payment employee would have received if on rolls on Apr. 15, 1970-----

173

**Highest previous rate**

Where agency has policy to extend benefit of highest previous rate rule prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5334(a), salary of employee who left Post Office Dept. during retroactive period between enactment of Postal Reorganization Act and its effective date may be adjusted to reflect increase authorized by act; and where agency does not have established policy, but did give employee benefit of last Post Office Dept. rate, it is within agency's discretion whether or not to adjust employee's salary to reflect increase in Post Office rate. However, sec. 531.203(d)(4) of Civil Service Commission Regs. relating to general increases in General Schedule and not to special increases, employee who was not on rolls at time of enactment of Reorganization Act may not be given benefit of increased rate for purposes of "highest previous rate" rule-----

414

**COMPENSATION—Continued****Page****Increases—Continued****Retroactive—Continued****Military service furlough during retroactive period**

Fact that reemployed civilian who while on military furlough served on active military duty was on civilian roll on Apr. 15, 1970, date of enactment of Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, Pub. L. 91-231, does not entitle him under act to retroactive adjustment in basic pay for active military duty performed during period Jan. 1, 1970, through Mar. 15, 1970, as act provides compensation increases for Federal classified employees only. However, although Pub. L. 90-207, Dec. 16, 1967, provides for increase in basic pay for military personnel whenever general schedule of compensation for Federal classified employees is increased. Secretary of Defense in implementing 1970 act pursuant to E. O. No. 11525 prescribed that member must have been on active duty on Apr. 15, 1970, to be entitled to retroactive adjustment in pay-----

**226****Status changes during period**

Former General Schedule employees of Post Office Dept. who transferred to higher General Schedule position in another agency between Aug. 12, 1970, date of enactment of Postal Reorganization Act, which provides approximately 8-percent salary increase, and effective date of act, first pay period beginning on or after Apr. 16, 1970, are entitled to have "not less than two-step increase" authorized in 5 U.S.C. 5334(b) for employees who are promoted or transferred, computed on revised General Schedule rate of Post Office Dept.; for in absence of specific language to contrary, rule for application is that retroactive salary increases apply as if increase had been in force and effect at time of change of status of employee-----

**414****Military pay. (See Pay)****Night work****Basic compensation determination**

When employee's wage board position is changed by agency action to General Schedule while he is working night shift, basic rate of pay preserved to employee under sec. 539.203 of Civil Service Regs. includes night differential, as it is "rate of pay fixed by \* \* \* administrative action" within contemplation of sec. 539.202(c), defining "rate of basic pay." Inclusion of night differential in establishing employee's General Schedule rate of pay does not preclude receipt of prescribed 10 percent night differential so long as he remains on night shift, but differential is not to be included in employee's retirement and life insurance base---

**332****Compensatory time in lieu**

Air National Guard technicians, whether they are wage or non-graded employees or General Schedule employees, who for 12-hour workday receive 4 hours compensatory time for work in excess of 8 hours a day, or receive compensatory time for 8-hour Sunday tour of duty, are not entitled to environmental differential pay, night shift differential pay, or premium pay, as 32 U.S.C. 709(g) in authorizing Secretary concerned to prescribe hours of duty for technicians and to fix their basic compensation or additional compensation, provides for granting of compensatory time in amount equal to time spent in irregular or overtime work with no compensation for compensatory time, since compensatory time is intended to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work-----

**847**

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Overpayments**

**Waiver**

**Aliens**

Authority in 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive erroneous payments of compensation made to employees of executive agencies is applicable to non-U.S. citizens employed by U.S. in foreign areas, as term "employee" as used in sec. 5584 means employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 2105; that is, individual appointed in "civil service," which constitutes all appointive positions in executive, judicial, and legislative branches of Govt., except positions in uniformed services (5 U.S.C. 2101(1)). Therefore, Philippine citizen, properly appointed to position in executive branch to perform Federal function supervised by Federal employee, is employee under 5 U.S.C. 5584 and entitled to waiver of erroneous compensation payments without regard to fact employment is under labor agreement with Philippine Govt -----

329

Public Law 90-616. (See Debt Collections, waiver, civilian employees)

**Overtime**

**Inspectional service employees**

**Skyjacking prevention**

Customs Inspectors who conduct predeparture inspection of air passengers bound for overseas as deterrent to skyjacking in accordance with Presidential program are not entitled to payment of overtime compensation under 19 U.S.C. 267, but rather under Federal Employees Pay Act of 1945 (5 U.S.C. 5542), even though inspections are necessary for safety of passengers and for protection of air carriers against air piracy, as inspection duties involved would not be custom duties prescribed by 19 U.S.C. 267, which are duties performed in connection with lading on Sundays, holidays, or at night of merchandise or baggage entered for transportation under bond or for exportation with benefit of drawback, or other merchandise or baggage required to be laden under customs supervision -----

708

**Traveltime**

In administration of inspection and grading programs, when events are not within control of Dept. of Agriculture, and Agricultural Commodity Grader is required to travel 8½ hours on Sunday to report for duty at 8 a.m. on Monday to inspect and checkload shipment of peanut butter being purchased by Dept., travel is compensable at overtime rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5542(b)(2)(B), as travel could not have been scheduled within employee's regular hours. Fact that Govt. is reimbursed for all costs incurred in providing inspection and checkloading services has no bearing on employee's entitlement to payment of overtime for services performed -----

519

Dept. of Agriculture employee returning from performing temporary duties of Agriculture Commodity Grader, whose air flight was delayed, is entitled under 5 U.S.C. 5542 to compensation for "usual waiting time" for interrupted travel that is prescribed by Federal Personnel Manual, which means time necessary to make connections in ordinary travel situation, consistent with performance of travel as expeditiously as possible, with extension of time for heavy holiday traffic and inclement weather, minus time for eating and rest. As traveltime that cannot be scheduled or controlled qualifies for work, employee whose regular tour of duty is

## COMPENSATION—Continued

Page

## Overtime—Continued

## Inspectional service employees—Continued

## Traveltime—Continued

8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., having traveled from 3:10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving day, is entitled to payment at overtime rate from 3:10 a.m. to 8 a.m. and at holiday premium pay rate from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

519

Under Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622), Dept. of Agriculture is required to perform inspection and grading services when products are shipped or received in interstate commerce; and, therefore, required services are not within control of Dept. to enable scheduling of inspector's travel during regular duty hours. Therefore, Agricultural Commodity Grader whose travel could not be scheduled during regular duty hours is entitled to be compensated for travel at overtime rates prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5542(b) (2) (B) -----

519

## Standby, etc., time

## Two-thirds rule

## Aboard vessels

A Corps of Engineers civilian wage board employee who performed 24-hour port watch duty aboard seagoing hopper dredge and received only 8 straight-time hours of compensation is entitled to payment for additional 8 hours claimed, and properly documented, at overtime rates on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling et al. v. U.S.*, and *France et al. v. U.S.*, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970), in which court held plaintiffs were in standby duty for time in excess of 8 hours and applied two-thirds rule, allowing 8 hours for sleeping and eating time, and awarded plaintiffs 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5544, rule that has been followed in decisions of Comptroller General.-----

767

Claims for 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates that are presented to Corps of Engineers by civilian wage board employees who performed 24-hour tours of duty on dredges and other floating plants, receiving compensation for only 8 hours of work on straight-time basis may be paid, if properly documented, by Corps on basis of two-thirds rule in *Detling* and *France* consolidated cases, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970). However, doubtful claims should be forwarded for settlement to Claims Division of U.S. GAO pursuant to 4 GAO 5.1, and when 10-year limitation act of Oct. 9, 1940 is involved and claims cannot be promptly approved and paid in full amount claimed, they should be forwarded to Claims Division for recording under 4 GAO 7.1, and after recording claims will be returned to Corps for payment, denial, or referral back to GAO for adjudication -----

767

Where claims of civilian wage board employees of Corps of Engineers for 8 hours overtime compensation, which are presented on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling* and *France*, 432 F. 2d 462, incident to 24-hour port watch aboard hopper dredges or other floating plants and receipt of only 8 hours straight-time compensation, cannot be adequately documented, payment may be made by Corps on basis of most accurate estimate after considering all available records. For example, if time and attendance records are missing for some part of period claimed but available pay and leave records support reasonably accurate estimates of standby duty, estimates will be considered sufficiently documented, or



COMPENSATION—Continued

Page

Overtime—Continued

Standby, etc., time—Continued

Two-thirds rule—Continued

Aboard vessels—Continued

where no signed logs can be found for standby duty claimed, next best evidence—duty rosters—may be used to substantiate payment of overtime -----

767

Traveltime

Administratively controllable

In administration of inspection and grading programs, when events are not within control of Dept. of Agriculture, and Agricultural Commodity Grader is required to travel 8½ hours on Sunday to report for duty at 8 a.m. on Monday to inspect and checkload shipment of peanut butter being purchased by Dept., travel is compensable at overtime rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5542(b) (2) (B), as travel could not have been scheduled within employee's regular hours. Fact that Govt. is reimbursed for all costs incurred in providing inspection and checkloading services has no bearing on employee's entitlement to payment of overtime for services performed-----

519

When employee of Dairy Division of Division of Consumer and Marketing Services of Dept. of Agriculture is ordered to travel on Sunday in order to attend two national milk hearings scheduled during week, one on Monday morning and other on Friday, requirement in Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 554(b), which provides that convenience of participants should be considered in fixing time and place for hearings, does not remove scheduling of hearings from Dept.'s control, for while provision imposes rule of reasonableness upon agency's freedom in scheduling hearings, it does not require hearings to be scheduled at any particular time. Therefore, traveltime of employee is not traveltime within meaning of 5 U.S.C. 5542(b) (2) (B) that is compensable as overtime.----

519

Under Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622), Dept. of Agriculture is required to perform inspection and grading services when products are shipped or received in interstate commerce; and, therefore, required services are not within control of Dept. to enable scheduling of inspector's travel during regular duty hours. Therefore, Agricultural Commodity Grader whose travel could not be scheduled during regular duty hours is entitled to be compensated for travel at overtime rates prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5542(b) (2) (B)-----

519

Traveltime of Food Inspector in Consumer Protection Program of Division of Consumer and Marketing Services of Dept. of Agriculture, performed from 9 p.m. Sunday until 4 a.m. Monday—hours outside regular tour of duty—in order to relieve inspector who had been granted nonemergency annual leave, is not compensable as overtime since in scheduling annual leave the need for relief inspector should have been considered and travel of relief inspector scheduled within regular duty hours. Also, return travel of relief inspector outside regular tour of duty was not required by event that could not be scheduled or controlled administratively; and, therefore, return travel from inspection site is not compensable under 5 U.S.C. 5542(b) (2) (B) as overtime-----

519

Employee performing Sunday through Thursday tour of duty who when directed on Wednesday to travel 100 miles to report for temporary duty at 8 a.m. Saturday, travels on Friday and returns on Saturday in-

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Overtime—Continued****Traveltime—Continued****Administratively controllable—Continued**

stead of traveling Thursday and Sunday, regular workdays, is not entitled under 5 U.S.C. 5544(b) to overtime compensation for traveltime, which having been administratively controllable may not be considered employment. Even if Saturday work was held to be administratively uncontrollable, in view of advance notice to employee, two other requisites must be met to qualify traveltime as hours of work—an official necessity for services and at least two successive off-duty days of travel, and travel requirement was not met by employee.-----

674

**Status****Waiting for transportation**

Dept. of Agriculture employee returning from performing temporary duties of Agriculture Commodity Grader, whose air flight was delayed, is entitled under 5 U.S.C. 5542 to compensation for "usual waiting time" for interrupted travel that is prescribed by Federal Personnel Manual, which means time necessary to make connections in ordinary travel situation, consistent with performance of travel as expeditiously as possible, with extension of time for heavy holiday traffic and inclement weather, minus time for eating and rest. As traveltime that cannot be scheduled or controlling qualifies for work, employee whose regular tour of duty is 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., having traveled from 3:10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, is entitled to payment at overtime rate from 3:10 a.m. to 8 a.m. and at holiday premium pay rate from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.-----

519

**Postal service****Rates****Highest previous rate****Postal Reorganization Act increases**

Increase in rates of basic compensation authorized by Postal Reorganization Act, approved Aug. 12, 1970, to take "effect on the first day of the first pay period which begins on or after April 16, 1970," and to provide 108 percent of compensation rates in effect prior to enactment of act, may be extended by regulation to employees who transferred to Post Office Dept. prior to Aug. 12, 1970, without regard to "highest previous salary rule" stated in sec. 531.203(c) of Civil Service Regs. issued pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5334(a) and 5338, thus preserving salary rates of transferred employees in accord with those salary increase acts that over the years contained provisions to overcome restrictions of "highest previous salary rule"—rule that continues to apply to employees transferred on and after Aug. 12, 1970.-----

253

**Premium****Compensatory time in lieu**

Air National Guard technicians, whether they are wage or nongraded employees or General Schedule employees, who for 12-hour workday receive 4 hours compensatory time for work in excess of 8 hours a day, or receive compensatory time for 8-hour Sunday tour of duty, are not entitled to environmental differential pay, night shift differential pay, or premium pay, as 32 U.S.C. 709(g) in authorizing Secretary concerned to prescribe hours of duty for technicians and to fix their basic compensation or additional compensation, provides for granting of compensatory

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Premium—Continued**

**Compensatory time in lieu—Continued**

time in amount equal to time spent in irregular or overtime work with no compensation for compensatory time, since compensatory time is intended to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work-----

847

**Environmental pay differential**

**Nonentitlement**

Air National Guard technician who assigned to 24-hour tour of duty at Air National Aircraft Control and Warning Site receives 12 percent annual premium pay under 32 U.S.C. 709(g), which is prescribed for unusual tours of duty, irregular duty, or additional duty, and work on days that are ordinarily nonworkdays, when exposed to duty in hazardous category is not entitled to environmental differential pay since premium pay not to exceed 12 percent of basic pay is authorized to be paid in lieu of additional compensation, including differentials and overtime compensation -----

847

**Promotions**

**Retroactive**

**Appointment correction**

Upon determination that employee who received excepted Schedule B appointment at grade GS-9 was discriminated against because of race or sex, which is expressly prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 7154(b) and 5 CFR 713.202, as she qualified for a GS-11 position and was assigned and performed work warranting a GS-11 classification, correction of personnel action and adjustment in pay is legally justified on basis original classification and appointment as GS-9 was illegal, and corrective action is not viewed as retroactive promotion such as ordinarily is prohibited by law-----

581

**Whitten Rider Restriction**

**Waiver**

Following upgrading of entrance grades for attorneys to GS-9 and GS-11 from GS-7 and GS-9; and adjusting of grades as consequence, National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) negotiated agreement with NLRB Professional Assn. to consider shorter time periods for promotions and requested waiver of Whitten Amendment requirement of 1-year ingrade except when only 5 weeks or less remained to complete required year of service, and as agreement entered into pursuant to E.O. No. 10988, which reserved to Govt. authority to promote efficiency of personnel operations, does not guarantee promotions, exercise of 5-week rule is administrative and its validity is not matter for arbitration. Therefore, attorney whose promotion was delayed by reason of 5-week rule is not entitled to retroactive promotion for in absence of administrative error general rule against retroactive promotions applies-----

850

**Rates**

**Highest previous rate**

**Retroactive salary increases**

Where agency has policy to extend benefit of highest previous rate rule prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5334(a), salary of employee who left Post Office Dept. during retroactive period between enactment of Postal Reorganization Act and its effective date may be adjusted to reflect increase

**COMPENSATION—Continued****Page****Rates—Continued****Highest previous rate—Continued****Retroactive salary increases—Continued**

authorized by act; and where agency does not have established policy, but did give employee benefit of last Post Office Dept. rate, it is within agency's discretion whether or not to adjust employee's salary to reflect increase in Post Office rate. However, sec. 531.203(d) (4) of Civil Service Commission Regs. relating to general increases in General Schedule and not to special increases, employee who was not on rolls at time of enactment of Reorganization Act may not be given benefit of increased rate for purposes of "highest previous rate" rule-----

414

**Transfers**

Increase in rates of basic compensation authorized by Postal Reorganization Act, approved Aug. 12, 1970, to take "effect on the first day of the first pay period which begins on or after April 16, 1970," and to provide 108 percent of compensation rates in effect prior to enactment of act, may be extended by regulation to employees who transferred to Post Office Dept. prior to Aug. 12, 1970, without regard to "highest previous salary rule" stated in sec. 531.203(c) of Civil Service Regs. issued pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5334(a) and 5338, thus preserving salary rates of transferred employees in accord with those salary increase acts that over the years contained provisions to overcome restrictions of "highest previous salary rule"—rule that continues to apply to employees transferred on and after Aug. 12, 1970-----

253

**Severance pay****Eligibility****Retired members of the uniformed services**

Upon reduction in force as civilian employee of U.S., retired member of uniformed services may not be paid severance pay as 1965 authorizing act (5 U.S.C. 5595) excludes payment of severance pay to person subject to Civil Service Retirement Act or any other retirement law or system applicable to Federal officers or employees or members of uniformed services who at time of separation have fulfilled requirements for immediate annuity—a term including retired pay—and prohibition against payment of severance pay is applicable without regard to when member first becomes entitled to military retired pay, or whether he is eligible under Dual Compensation Act of 1964 (5 U.S.C. 5531-5534) to receive military retired pay concurrently in whole or in part with compensation of his civilian office or position-----

46

**Overpayments**

Erroneous payments of severance pay made under 5 U.S.C. 5595 to retired members of uniformed services, who employed as civilians by U.S. were reduced in force, may be waived under provisions of act of Oct. 21, 1968, Pub. L. 90-616-----

46

**Unemployment. (See Unemployment Compensation)****Vessel employees****Overtime****Twenty-four hour port watch duty**

A Corps of Engineers civilian wage board employee who performed 24-hour port watch duty aboard seagoing hopper dredge and received only 8 straight-time hours of compensation is entitled to payment for

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Vessel employees—Continued**

**Overtime—Continued**

**Twenty-four hour port watch duty—Continued**

additional 8 hours claimed, and properly documented, at overtime rates on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling et al. v. U.S.*, and *France et al. v. U.S.*, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970), in which court held plaintiffs were in standby duty for time in excess of 8 hours and applied two-thirds rule, allowing 8 hours for sleeping and eating time, and awarded plaintiffs 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5544, rule that has been followed in decisions of Comptroller General -----

767

Claims for 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates that are presented to Corps of Engineers by civilian wage board employees who performed 24-hour tours of duty on dredges and other floating plants, receiving compensation for only 8 hours of work on straight-time basis may be paid, if properly documented, by Corps on basis of two-thirds rule in *Detling* and *France* consolidated cases, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970). However, doubtful claims should be forwarded for settlement to Claims Division of U.S. GAO pursuant to 4 GAO 5.1, and when 10-year limitation act of Oct. 9, 1940 is involved and claims cannot be promptly approved and paid in full amount claimed, they should be forwarded to Claims Division for recording under 4 GAO 7.1, and after recording claims will be returned to Corps for payment, denial, or referral back to GAO for adjudication.-----

767

Where claims of civilian wage board employees of Corps of Engineers for 8 hours overtime compensation, which are presented on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling* and *France*, 432 F. 2d 462, incident to 24-hour port watch aboard hopper dredges or other floating plans and receipt of only 8 hours straight-time compensation, cannot be adequately documented, payment may be made by Corps on basis of most accurate estimate after considering all available records. For example, if time and attendance records are missing for some part of period claimed but available pay and leave records support reasonably accurate estimates of standby duty, estimates will be considered sufficiently documented, or where no signed logs can be found for standby duty claimed, next best overtime -----

767

**Wage board employees**

**Conversion to classified positions**

**Rate establishment**

When employee's wage board position is changed by agency action to General Schedule while he is working night shift, basic rate of pay preserved to employee under sec. 539.203 of Civil Service Regs. includes night differential, as it is "rate of pay fixed by \* \* \* administrative action" within contemplation of sec. 539.202(c), defining "rate of basic pay." Inclusion of night differential in establishing employee's General Schedule rate of pay does not preclude receipt of prescribed 10 percent night differential so long as he remains on night shift, but differential is not to be included in employee's retirement and life insurance base.-----

832

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Wage board employees—Continued****Coordinated Federal wage system****Compensation adjustments**

Employees in wage area converted to Coordinated Federal Wage System in July 1969 who subsequent to consolidation in November 1969 with another wage area became entitled to higher wage rates retroactively prescribed by "Monroney Amendment," 5 U.S.C. 5341(c), may be paid higher rates from retroactive effective date of amendment to date their wage area was consolidated but not beyond that date, for to do so would require giving retroactive effect, contrary to general rule, to Oct. 2, 1970, salary retention provision added to Coordinated Wage System to provide for indefinite salary retention for employees adversely affected by changes in wage area boundaries.....

635

**Environmental differential payments**

Environmental pay differential for dirty work having been authorized for Dist. of Columbia wage employees by proper wage fixing authority in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5341, and in conformity with commercial practices, differential may be considered basic pay, whether stated separately or included in scheduled rates, for purposes of computing wage board overtime and Sunday rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5544, the Civil Service Retirement Deductions authorized in 5 U.S.C. 8334, and for determining annual rate of pay for group life insurance provided in Federal Personnel Manual, Supp. 8.70-1, Subch. 83-3a, and differential may be paid to employees while in leave status.....

66

**Increases****Retroactive****Separated employees**

Wage board employees who are no longer on Govt. rolls when regulations issue to implement Monroney Amendment, Pub. L. 90-560, approved Oct. 12, 1968, 5 U.S.C. 5341(c), which authorizes equating Federal wage board employees having special skills with comparable positions in private enterprise in wage survey areas outside local wage survey area, are entitled to retroactive wage adjustment on basis action is corrective and required by act, rather than grant of wage increase within meaning of 5 U.S.C. 5344, and retroactive wage increases should be viewed as proper salary rates of employees for purposes of separation. If whereabouts of former employee is unknown, notification of entitlement should be sent to last known address; and if employee has died, notice should be mailed to last known address of widow.....

266

**Wage adjustments**

In retroactive application of Monroney Amendment wage schedule, 5 U.S.C. 5341(c), pursuant to U.S. Civil Service Bulletin No. 532-9, dated Sept. 23, 1970, when comparison of individual wage payments evidences previous wage schedule payments were less than employee is entitled to under Monroney Amendment, employee should be paid difference; and if previous payment was greater than amount due under amendment, employee may retain difference. However, where comparison of individual payments shows that underpayments equal overpayments, no payment is due employee.....

495

**COMPENSATION—Continued**

Page

**Wage board employees—Continued**

**Overtime**

**Night work**

**Constitutes basic compensation**

When employee's wage board position is changed by agency action to General Schedule while he is working night shift, basic rate of pay preserved to employee under sec. 539.203 of Civil Service Regs. includes night differential, as it is "rate of pay fixed by \* \* \* administrative action" within contemplation of sec. 539.202(c), defining "rate of basic pay." Inclusion of night differential in establishing employee's General Schedule rate of pay does not preclude receipt of prescribed 10 percent night differential so long as he remains on night shift, but differential is not to be included in employee's retirement and life insurance base-----

332

**What constitutes**

**Environmental differential**

Environmental pay differential for dirty work having been authorized for Dist. of Columbia wage employees by proper wage fixing authority in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5341, and in conformity with commercial practices, differential may be considered basic pay, whether stated separately or included in scheduled rates, for purposes of computing wage board overtime and Sunday rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5544, the Civil Service Retirement Deductions authorized in 5 U.S.C. 8334, and for determining annual rate of pay for group life insurance provided in Federal Personnel Manual, Supp. 870-1, Subch. 83-3a, and differential may be paid to employees while in leave status-----

66

**Withholding**

**Union dues**

**Discontinuance**

Timely mailed revocation of dues allotment to employee organization made pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5525, which was received in payroll office on Monday, Mar. 2, first workday after Mar. 1 deadline set by Civil Service Commission, 5 C.F.R. 550.308, constitutes compliance with regulation under rule that when act is to be performed by certain date and last day of period falls on Sunday, requirement is complied with if act is performed on following day. Therefore, discontinuance of allotment having become effective at beginning of first full pay period following Mar. 1 deadline, dues deducted subsequent to revocation are for collection from employee organization and repayment to employee-----

108

**CONGRESS**

**Constitutional authority**

**Property matters**

Lease of land adjacent to Visitors' Information Center at John F. Kennedy Center, Fla., for construction of nondenominational chapel from funds raised by public subscription is pursuant to Art. IV, sec. 3, cl. 2 of Constitution of U.S., a congressional and not executive function, unless otherwise specifically provided by statute, and leasing authority in sec. 203(b) (3) of National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2473(b) (3)), does not appear to be intended as specific authority for execution of proposed 30-year lease. Therefore, because of nature of its use, land within Federal enclave should not be leased without congressional approval of chapel construction, and payment of annual rental has no significance in considering lack of specific authority to lease land-----

63

**CONGRESS—Continued**

Page

**Employees****Restaurant employees****Alien employment prohibited**

Special deposit accounts established under 40 U.S.C. 174k(b) and 174j-4, with Treasurer of U.S. by Architect of Capitol as manager of House and Senate restaurants, constitute permanent indefinite appropriations for use similar to revolving fund in view of fact the funds otherwise would be for deposit as miscellaneous receipts; and funds do not lose their identity as appropriated funds, because funds appropriated for contingent expenses of House and Senate are deposited and disbursed from accounts. Therefore, since restaurant employees are paid from funds considered appropriated funds, restriction in Pub. L. 91-144, against payment of compensation from appropriated funds to other than U.S. citizens, prohibits employment of aliens by restaurants. Overrules B-43917, Aug. 30, 1944, relative to special deposit accounts; but pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5533, restaurant employees are now exempt from dual compensation prohibition -----

323

**CONTRACTORS****Conflicts of interest****Developmental or prototype items**

Determination and findings of conflict of interest in procurement of analysis and design services to update obsolescent automatic data processing equipment, and proposal that design contract ban successful contractor from participating in future procurement of hardware, satisfies requirement in Dept. of Defense Directive 5500.10, Rules for Avoidance of Organizational Conflicts of Interest, that contractor "agree to prepare and furnish complete specifications," notwithstanding design contract does not constitute whole specifications and exclusion from ban of purchase of data processing equipment to be handled by other than procuring agency. However, to carry out intent of Directive, ban should extend to date of award of first production contract rather than specific date proposed -----

54

**CONTRACTS****Amounts****Estimates****Requirements contracts. (See Contracts, requirements)****Assignment. (See Claims, assignment)****Awards****Aggregate basis****Best interests of Government**

Failure to submit price for one of four military installations at which delivery is to be made of coveralls solicited under invitation that requested individual prices on quantities specified for each installation is not clerical oversight that may be waived as minor irregularity pursuant to par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and omitted price may not be inserted on basis single price quoted for other three installations applies to entire quantity solicited because bidder had checked block captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none" in bid form, nor may nonresponsive bid be considered for partial award. As award of whole contract is in best interest of Govt., it may be made



CONTRACTS—Continued

Page

Awards—Continued

Aggregate basis—Continued

Best interests of Government—Continued

to responsive and responsible bidder offering low aggregate bid whose per unit net price for entire procurement is reasonable although slightly higher than that of nonresponsive bidder.....

852

Cancellation

Contract voidable *v.* void *ab initio*

Although first preference labor surplus certificate of eligibility furnished by small business concern was invalid as bidder had no plant in labor surplus area at time certificate was issued, plant being acquired month after award of set-aside portion of procurement for detecting sets to concern on basis of labor surplus preference, award need not be canceled as it is voidable at Govt.'s option rather than void *ab initio*, since it was made in good faith as contracting officer was required to accept certificate in absence of preaward protest or evidence of error on face of certificate, which prospectively located plant in surplus labor area, and also contracting officer properly waived omission of plant's address in surplus labor area as minor deviation.....

559

Erroneous awards

Bid evaluation base

Although offeror's estimated prices are not deciding factor in selecting successful contractor under cost-reimbursement type contract negotiated pursuant to ASPR 3-805.2, contracting agency that during evaluation of proposals received under request for quotations soliciting preparation of Govt. publication on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis eliminates 25 points assigned to factor of reasonableness of cost in evaluation criteria, is required under ASPR 3-805.1 to continue negotiations with all offerors within competitive range. Therefore, award made solely on basis of technical superiority as being in best interest of Govt. without further negotiation with offerors who have necessary qualifications to perform procurement should be canceled.....

16

In evaluation of offers under request for proposals to furnish professional architectural and engineering services, application of transition cost factor to offer of only contractor who had not previously performed services without apprising offerors that this factor would be utilized in effecting award of contract thus eliminating contractor who was lowest priced responsible offeror from competition was unwarranted and action was inconsistent with sound procurement policy which dictates that offerors be informed of all evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor, nor was waiver of transition costs for successful offeror because of available qualified personnel justified. Therefore, since award was patently erroneous and without regard to established principles of competitive negotiation, contract should be terminated.....

637

Bid evaluation error

Issuance of stop order pending resolution of bid protest, and cancellation of award to second low bidder to award contract to low bidder whose aggregate firm bid conforming to bid instructions that were overlooked in evaluation process was displaced by erroneous application of unit price rule to estimated data prices, were proper administrative actions, notwithstanding contract did not provide for stop orders, since

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Awards—Continued**

**Cancellation—Continued**

**Erroneous awards—Continued**

**Bid evaluation error—Continued**

authority to issue stop orders is not dependent on contract provision but on whether action is necessary in interest of Govt., and procurement subject to statutory requirement that award be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder, erroneous award which did not involve exercise of any authorized discretion did not create binding contract, and cancellation of award was legally permissible.....

447

**Cancellation not required**

Award of contract for road grader to second low bidder offering qualified product grader with superior engine which was not listed on applicable Qualified Products List as required by appropriate Federal specification, and was modified by contracting agency, on basis superior engine that exceeded minimum needs of Govt. was essential for area in which it was to be used, violated sec. 1-1.1101 of Federal Procurement Regs. Although award should not have been made to nonresponsive bidder since delivery and payment have been made, corrective action is precluded. Notwithstanding sec. 1-1.305.1 requires use of Federal specifications, exceptions are permitted, and since Qualified Products List item is inadequate for road grader needed, agency may deviate from Federal specifications by complying with conditions in sec. 1-1.305-3.....

691

**Discussion with all offerors requirement**

In negotiation of procurement, exception in 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) to conducting discussions with all responsible offerors within competitive range may not be invoked by contracting officer to make award to other than low responsible offeror where price is sole evaluation factor and, therefore, award to second low offeror, incumbent contractor, without obtaining Certificate of Competency (COC) on low offeror, a small business concern considered nonresponsive on factors relating to capacity and credit, was illegal and award should be canceled. No award should have been made unless SBA refused to issue COC or did not respond to referral within 15 days, or in alternative if low proposal was unacceptable without clarification, discussions should have been conducted with all offerors within competitive range.....

67

**Not in best interest of Government**

Authority in sec. 1-3.805 of Federal Procurement Regs. to negotiate research and development, or cost-reimbursable, or special service contracts without price competition based solely on determination that particular contractor would furnish services of higher quality than any other contractor, does not cover selection of air tanker operators by Forest Service to fight forest fires as such service is not within categories contemplated by regulation for exception to price competition, and failure to include price as factor of contractor selection violates spirit and intent of Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and implementing regulations. Although it would not be in best interest of Govt. to disturb contracts awarded and options exercised, price inclusion in future offers will be required. B-157954, Dec. 15, 1965, modified.....

110

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Awards—Continued**

**Delayed awards**

**After bid acceptance period**

Where second low bidder, during period for accepting its bid, filed protest with U.S. GAO as to unacceptability of low bid, consideration of its bid submitted under invitation for bids on electronic equipment is not precluded because bid acceptance period was extended only after acceptance date had expired, since filing of protest tolled expiration of bid acceptance period until after resolution of protest. As no other bidder is eligible for award, integrity of competitive system is not involved; and, therefore, there is no "compelling reason" to reject second low bid. However, in future procurements should award be delayed until after expiration of bid acceptance period, procedures prescribed in secs. 1-2.404-1(c) and 1-2.407-8(b) (2) of Federal Procurement Regs. should be followed...

357

**Erroneous**

**Mistake in fact**

Award to high bidder offering surgical steel blade manufactured in U.S. from imported stainless steel, based on erroneous determination item is domestic source end product as defined in par. 6-101(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under rule in ASPR 6-001(d) relating to nonavailability of domestic steel, rather than award to low bidder proposing to use similar steel and manufacture blade abroad—considered foreign end product—will not be disturbed, as award was made under mistaken belief held by all participants that only use of imported steel was authorized, notwithstanding availability of domestic carbon steel. Furthermore, adding 50-percent differential prescribed by ASPR 6-104.4(b) displaces low bid.....

239

**Labor surplus areas**

**Certificate of eligibility**

**Validity**

Although first preference labor surplus certificate of eligibility furnished by small business concern was invalid as bidder had no plant in labor surplus area at time certificate was issued, plant being acquired month after award of set-aside portion of procurement for detecting sets to concern on basis of labor surplus preference, award need not be canceled as it is voidable at Govt.'s option rather than void *ab initio*, since it was made in good faith as contracting officer was required to accept certificate in absence of preaward protest or evidence of error on face of certificate, which prospectively located plant in surplus labor area, and also contracting officer properly waived omission of plant's address in surplus labor area as minor deviation.....

559

**Legality**

Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, in awarding cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for Urban Traffic Control System (UTCS) to offeror that had prepared specifications for system under research and development study, did not violate any mandatory regulations, since Federal Procurement Regs. do not contain organizational conflicts of interest provision and Dept. has not issued specific rules governing conflicts of interests, and even if Administration was subject to Dept. of Defense Directive 5500.10, "Rules for the Avoidance of Organizational Conflicts

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Awards—Continued****Legality—Continued**

of Interest," which it is not, Directive is not self-executing and would not apply in absence of notice to prospective contractors and inclusion of restrictive clause in contract. Moreover, whether UTCs program represents judicious, as distinguished from legal, expenditure of public funds would not affect legality of contract.....

565

**Multiple****Lowest overall cost to Government**

Although multiple awards to four offerors responding to solicitation issued under national emergency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (16), three operating Govt-owned contractor-operated facilities, for purpose of satisfying current needs and retaining suppliers for accelerated future demands, did not result in lowest individual offeror receiving award for maximum quantity, multiple awards produced lowest overall cost to Govt. and will not be disturbed, even though request for proposals (RFP) stated that it was expected one offeror would not be successful whereas awards were made to all offerors. Moreover, there was no quantity increase to require formal amendment to RFP, evaluation of proposals from offerors operating Govt. facilities was in accord with Bur. of Budget Cir. No. A-76, and failure to award all contracts simultaneously was justified, as was evaluation transportation factor used.....

777

**Small business concerns****Bid bond principal deviation**

Low bid submitted under total small business set-aside for Air Force Base construction project which bore three names of joint venture shown in bid bond accompanying bid, but was signed by president of only small business concern involved, may not be awarded to either joint venture or small business concern on basis two large business firms had associated with small business concern only for purpose of obtaining bid bond. As to joint venture, there was none at time of bid submission or opening, and subsequently submitted information could not create joint venture for purpose of bid ratification—even if it could, joint venture as large concern would be ineligible for award, nor would award to small concern be proper as bid bond named joint venture as principal.....

530

**Certifications****Requirements contract**

Under small business set-aside for award of requirements type contract, evaluation of low bid for purpose of Certificate of Competency (COC) procedures on basis of initial quantity to be purchased rather than estimated quantity to be ordered during contract period was inconsistent with use of estimated quantity to determine low bidder and to perform preaward survey, and resulted in erroneous refusal of contracting officer to refer low bidder's unfavorable preaward survey to Small Business Administration (SBA) as required by par. 1-705(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR). Therefore, procedure in ASPR 1-705.4(c)(vi) should be implemented and if SBA determines that COC would have been granted at time of award and that such determination is still valid, contract awarded should be canceled and award made to low bidder.....

799

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Awards—Continued**

**Small business concerns—Continued**

**Set-asides**

**Competition sufficiency**

Determination not to set aside any portion of procurement, which was made after consulting with small business representative, because most recent set-aside for same item had failed to generate sufficient competition, was within policy stated in par. 1-802 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and within ambit of sound administrative discretion; and absent showing of abuse in exercise of that discretion, there is no basis for U.S. GAO to object to failure to set aside procurement.-----

383

**Performance in foreign country**

Use of small business set-aside issued pursuant to par. 1-706.5(a) (1) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR) for procurement of dairy products overseas, on basis of reasonable expectation of competition, was proper procedure, even though ASPR 1-700 does not include foreign areas in geographical areas listed for performance of set-asides, as intent of Small Business Act is to benefit small business concerns and place of performance *per se* has no bearing other than to require consideration of greater complexities involved in performing contract in foreign area in selecting responsible offeror. Moreover, proper procedures were also followed in not referring expectation of receiving proposals at reasonable prices to higher authority, in providing for possible submission of Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data by successful offeror; and in manner of soliciting "courtesy bids" from large concerns.-----

759

**Bid shopping.** (*See Contracts, subcontracts, bid shopping*)

**Bids, generally.** (*See Bids*)

**Brand name or equal.** (*See Contracts, specifications, restrictive, particular make*)

**Buy American Act**

**Foreign products**

**Nonavailability determination**

Award to high bidder offering surgical steel blade manufactured in U.S. from imported stainless steel, based on erroneous determination item is domestic source end product as defined in par. 6-101(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under rule in ASPR 6-001(d) relating to non-availability of domestic steel, rather than award to low bidder proposing to use similar steel and manufacture blade abroad—considered foreign end product—will not be disturbed, as award was made under mistaken belief held by all participants that only use of imported steel was authorized, notwithstanding availability of domestic carbon steel. Furthermore, adding 50-percent differential prescribed by ASPR 6-104.4(b) displaces low bid.-----

239

**Change orders.** (*See Contracts, modification, change orders*)

**Conflicts of interest prohibitions**

**Negotiated contracts.** (*See Contracts, negotiation, conflicts of interest prohibition*)

**Research and development contracts.** (*See Contracts, research and developmen, conflicts of interest prohibition*)

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Cost-plus****Basis for award**

Cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contracts authorized by 41 U.S.C. 254(b) may be used when head of agency determines that such method of contracting is likely to be less costly than other methods or that it is impractical to secure property or services of kind or quality required without use of cost or cost-plus-a-fixed-fee or incentive type contract; and since administrative determination is afforded finality by 41 U.S.C. 257(a), there is no legal basis to require cancellation of contract simply because it is cost reimbursement type of contract.....

565

**"Cost-plus-award fee" method of contracting**

Where in evaluation of management, financial, and technical factors offered under request for quotations for operation overseas of communication system, offerors are found equally qualified technically on basis of normalizing results of numerical scoring system used by Source Selection Evaluation Board and analysis of Board's evaluation by Source Selection Advisory Council using its independent scoring and weighting—referred to as "no gain technique"—and on basis of reevaluating manpower proposals, award of cost-plus-award fee contract to lowest offeror was proper, and award is unaffected by Advisory Council's deviation, with permission, from evaluation guidelines in Army Command Pamphlet 715-3, and by changes in scoring made between evaluations, since relative weights of evaluation criteria were preserved.....

390

**Evaluation factors****Advantage to Government**

Selection of contractor for negotiation of cost-plus-award-fee type contract for support services at Kennedy Space Center that are being performed under expiring contract without binding selected contractor to "successor employer" doctrine that would impose terms of current collective bargaining agreements with incumbent union employees was valid exercise of discretion granted to contracting agency to award contract that will be most advantageous to Govt., since there is neither statutory nor judicial requirement that contractor who succeeds prior contractor in performance of service for Govt. at Govt. installation assume predecessor contractor's bargaining agreement with its union employees; moreover, selected contractor proposes to recognize bargaining representatives of incumbent employees.....

592

**"Realism" of costs and technical approach**

In award of cost-reimbursement contracts, procurement personnel are required to exercise informed judgments as to whether submitted proposals are realistic concerning proposed costs and technical approach, and such judgments must properly be left to administrative discretion of contracting agencies involved, since they are in best position to assess "realism" of costs and technical approaches, and must bear major criticism for any difficulties or expenses experienced by reason of defective cost analysis. Should Govt. fail to adequately measure "realism" of low quantum of costs, definition of "reasonable" cost to mean low cost *per se* on comparative basis would be improper for award purposes.....

390

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Cost-plus—Continued**

**Evaluation factors—Continued**

**Use of point system**

Although offeror's estimated prices are not deciding factor in selecting successful contractor under cost-reimbursement type contract negotiated pursuant to ASPR 3-805.2, contracting agency that during evaluation of proposals received under request for quotations soliciting preparation of Govt. publication on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis eliminates 25 points assigned to factor of reasonableness of cost of evaluation criteria, is required under ASPR 3-805.1 to continue negotiations with all offerors within competitive range. Therefore, award made solely on basis of technical superiority as being in best interest of Govt. without further negotiation with offerors who have necessary qualifications to perform procurement should be canceled-----

16

**Data, rights, etc.**

**Disclosure**

**Restrictive markings**

**Timely request**

Cancellation of invitation to furnish repair parts for naval vessel propeller system, invitation accompanied by drawings submitted individually over long period of time in connection with procurement of system, and proposed sole source purchase of parts from supplier of system on basis restrictive legend requested on drawings was made within 6 months of final delivery of data package, goes beyond authority of contracting officer under par. 9-202.3(d) (1) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which in providing that data received without restrictive legend if not alleged to be proprietary within 6 months of delivery is considered to have been furnished with unlimited rights, requires time limitation to be applied to each data submission, and request having been untimely received, cancellation of invitation was not justified-----

271

**Restrictive data rights v. procurement methods**

"Engineering-critical" designation assigned by agreement to replace-ment parts for engines developed at costs shared by manufacturer and Govt. to preclude use of data for competitive purposes because of difficulty to determine rights of parties, relating to restricted data rights and not to procurement methods, additional sources of supply may be developed by instituting appropriate tests and qualification procedures, provided rights of manufacturer are not infringed. Par. 1-313 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. requires competitive procurement of spare parts, and it would be contrary to concept of "maximum practical competition" to hold that "engineering-critical" item may not be procured competitively without regard to willingness and ability of other than sole source supplier to produce parts without infringement of proprietary rights-----

184

**Status of information furnished**

Where restrictive legend was not attached to drawings at time of initial transfer to Govt. and legend had not been authorized within 6 months of submission of data as provided by par. 9-202.3(d) (1) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., Govt. in partially publishing drawings violated no contractual restriction, nor is Govt. liable on basis contractor furnishing drawings had obligation as licensee to protect trade

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Data, rights, etc.—Continued****Status of information furnished—Continued**

secrets of licensor. However, restrictive legend could be authorized for unpublished drawings by obtaining deviation pursuant to ASPR 9-202.3 (a) to 6 months' time limitation in ASPR 9-202.3(d) (1) for attaching restrictive legend.....

271

Davis-Bacon Act. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, Davis-Bacon Act) Deliveries

**Defective supplies, etc.****Government inspection prior to delivery**

Approval by contracting agency of press proof of artwork for plastic litter bags submitted by contractor in accordance with specification requirements, notwithstanding word "Boundary" was misspelled as "Boundry," estops agency from denying payment to contractor on basis bags were defective within contemplation of par. 5(d) of Standard Form 82; and, therefore, Govt.'s acceptance was not conclusive, since inspection and approval of press proofs of artwork was separate from inspection and acceptance intended under par. 5(d) concerned with latent defect that cannot be discovered by inspection. Whether or not offer of contractor to furnish labels with word "Boundary" correctly spelled for attachment to bags is accepted does not affect agency's obligation for contract price.....

534

**Failure to meet schedule****Interpretation of "Time for Delivery" provision**

Interpretation of "Time for Delivery" provision in contract for court reporting and transcription service of hearings before National Transportation Safety Board, Department of Transportation, is question of law and not of fact for resolution under "Disputes" clause of contract. Requirement to deliver transcripts originating outside of Washington, D.C., to Docket Section of Board, located in Washington, within 10 days, means transcripts must be in custody of specified office within 10 calendar days from date of hearing, and mere fact of mailing transcripts before expiration of 10-day period does not constitute full compliance with delivery clause.....

513

**Delivery provisions****Evaluation. (See Bids, evaluation, delivery provisions)*****De minimis* rule****Negotiated contracts**

Since to properly terminate close of negotiations, offerors must be advised that negotiations are being conducted; asked for their "best and final" offer and not merely to confirm prior submission; and informed that any revision of proposal must be submitted by common cutoff date, cutoff date prescribed by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. is considered essential and not *de minimis* requirement, and purposes of establishing common cutoff date would be frustrated if proposal revision were permitted after common cutoff date without opening new negotiations on basis that this procedure would be favorable to Govt.....

117



**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Disputes**

**Conflict between administrative report and contractor's allegations**

Where there is dispute between contracting officer and proposed contractor relative to matters that are not part of written record, in accordance with policy of U.S. GAO, dispute must be resolved in favor of contracting officer, as GAO is unable to resolve questions of credibility apart from written record and must therefore defer to administrative agency -----

281

**Equal employment opportunity requirements. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, nondiscrimination)**

**Government property**

**Negotiated contracts**

Although multiple awards to four offerors responding to solicitation issued under national emergency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (16), three operating Govt.-owned contractor-operated facilities, for purpose of satisfying current needs and retaining suppliers for accelerated future demands, did not result in lowest individual offeror receiving award for maximum quantity, multiple awards produced lowest overall cost to Govt. and will not be disturbed, even though request for proposals (RFP) stated that it was expected one offeror would not be successful whereas awards were made to all offerors. Moreover, there was no quantity increase to require formal amendment to RFP, evaluation of proposals from offerors operating Govt. facilities was in accord with Bur. of Budget Cir. No. A-76, and failure to award all contracts simultaneously was justified, as was evaluation transportation factor used -----

777

**Increased costs**

**Additional work or quantities**

**Disallowance of claim**

Claim submitted for consideration under settlement authority in 31 U.S.C. 71 for additional compensation to cover required correction in printing of technical publication, which had been disallowed by contracting officer and appeal to disallowance denied by administrative officer, may not be paid on basis prior uncorrected orders had been accepted, where record shows contractor agreed to correct error without cost to Govt., and supplemental agreement providing charge for work—insertion of fold-ins in publication in indicated sequence—has reference to future orders. Furthermore, alleged subsequent oral agreement may not be considered, as review is restricted to record before contracting agency at time the head of agency rendered decision-----

369

**Joint ventures. (See Joint Ventures)**

**Labor stipulations**

**Affirmative action programs. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, nondiscrimination)**

**Applicability**

**To prospective contractors**

A reissued invitation for bids (IFB) to perform custodial services which provided for application of Service Contract Act of 1965, and contained revised wage determination by Dept. of Labor and "Successor Employers' Collective Bargaining Obligations" clause that recognized incumbent contractor's union bargaining agreement is not restrictive

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Labor stipulations—Continued**

**Applicability—Continued**

**To prospective contractors—Continued**

of competition and award may be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2305(c). Inclusion in IFB of Service Contract Act clause and revised determination was in accord with 29 CFR 4.6, and amendment to IFB to provide for revised wage determination conformed to par. 2-208 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., even though revision was not received at least 10 days before bid opening as required, since sufficient time was provided for acknowledgment of amendment.....

648

Inclusion in invitation for bids of language regarding National Labor Relations Board *Burns* decision, 182 NLRB No. 50, on effect of existing collective bargaining agreements of employers upon successor employers does not require bidders to be bound by existing labor agreement as Govt. made no commitment regarding effect of decision but left matters to bidders to decide. It was not improper to place bidders on notice of *Burns* decision and incumbent contractor's union bargaining agreement and as language used was merely advisory, invitation was not ambiguous. Extension of existent bargaining agreement beyond contract period is not prohibited by procurement statutes, and whether agreement is enforceable against followup employer is for courts to decide.....

648

**Davis-Bacon Act**

**Applicability**

**Criteria**

Invitation for installation of heavy equipment replacements that omitted Davis-Bacon Act on basis procurement did not contemplate construction, alteration, or repair of public building, and incorporated provisions of Walsh-Healey Act, which requires contractor to be manufacturer of or regular dealer in equipment to be supplied, and provision for bidders to attest to their experience and competency should be canceled and reissued by contracting agency under guidelines in sec. 1-12.402-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for determining whether substantial amounts of construction, alteration, or repair work would be involved, also taking into consideration fact that no bidder qualified as manufacturer or dealer to be eligible for award, and that solicitation in requiring experience and competency attestation was unduly restrictive of competition.....

807

**Maintenance contracts**

Contracts for repainting mailboxes at their stationary positions, work that is regular, continuous and recurring, and is performed in accordance with Post Office Dept.'s Letter Box Maintenance Handbook approximately every 36 months, are subject to Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, an act that is applicable to contracts in excess of \$2,000 for painting and decorating of public buildings and works, whether performed in conjunction with original construction or as regular maintenance, and mailboxes are within contemplation of term "public works," which term encompasses any Govt-owned facility necessary for carrying on community life and to cover any article or structure that is placed, either permanently or temporarily, at particular location to serve public purpose .....

720

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Labor stipulations—Continued**

**Applicability—Continued**

**Davis-Bacon Act—Continued**

**Classification of workmen**

**Erroneous**

Classification of workmen who installed "Orangeburg" fiber ducts as conduit for underground electrical wiring as laborers under contract including wage determination for electricians and laborers, and disputes clause was violation of Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, and referral of erroneous classification to Secretary of Labor under disputes clause when contractor disagreed with contracting officer's determination based on prevailing area practice but refused to submit contrary evidence did not violate contract or prejudice contractor because it had not been advised of referral, and Secretary's confirmation, even though based on record only, that classification was erroneous—determination that is not subject to review—entitles laborers who were not supervised by journeyman electrician to wage adjustment as electricians and not electrician apprentices-----

103

**Suspension**

Discarding of all bids for construction of family housing at military installation under invitation that contained prescribed minimum wage rates determined by Secretary of Labor for laborers and mechanics in accordance with Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, because of Presidential Proclamation 4031, dated Feb. 23, 1971, which suspended act, and reissuance of invitation without requirements of act were actions in public interest within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2305(c), and Proclamation was compelling reason contemplated by par. 2-404.1 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that justified cancellation of invitation for bids-----

634

**Revoked**

Low bidder under invitation for bids that was canceled upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, dated Feb. 23, 1971, which suspended provisions of Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, who is second low bidder under reissued invitation is not entitled to award under canceled invitation when Presidential Proclamation 4040 of Mar. 29, 1971 revoked suspension of act. Presidential Proclamation 4040 effectively revoked Davis-Bacon Act only as to construction contracts for which solicitations for bids or proposals were issued after Mar. 29, 1971, and implementing Defense Dept. regulation confirms that solicitations issued after Feb. 23, 1971, but before Mar. 30, 1971, shall not contain Davis-Bacon Act provisions and, therefore, award to lowest responsible, responsive bidder under reissued invitation would be in accordance with intent of proclamation and regulation-----

798

Davis-Bacon Act provisions and wage determinations in invitation for bids that were to apply only to some of worldwide performance sites at which radomes are to be reconditioned and maintained under requirements contract, which were deleted by amendment upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, need not be reinstated because suspension of act was revoked by Proclamation 4040. Determination to resolicit procurement and include Davis-Bacon Act provisions although recommended was left to discretion of contracting agencies by Dept. of Labor, and determination having been made that resolicitation of procurement would be prejudicial to bidders, contract without provisions may be awarded to lowest responsive and responsible bidder-----

830

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Labor stipulations—Continued****Minimum wage determinations****Not guarantee of labor costs**

Issuance of wage rate determination by Dept. of Labor constitutes finding that rates specified are rates prevailing in locality, and inclusion of determination in invitation for bids or contract is not representation by Govt. that labor may be obtained by contractor at specified rates and, therefore, each bidder has burden of ascertaining probable labor costs -----

648

**Nondiscrimination****Affirmative action programs**

Responsibility for reviewing equal employment opportunity (EEO), compliance having been assigned by Sec. of Labor in implementing E.O. No. 11246, to agencies on basis of industrial classification, General Services Administration properly reviewed EEO compliance by low bidder on linoleum portion of its invitation for bids and relied on information furnished by agency responsible for determining compliance by low bidder on floor tiles. Although pursuant to 41 CFR 60-1.40(a) prime contractor is required "to develop a written affirmative action compliance program for each of its establishments," administrative determination that lack of *de facto* control by floor tile contractor of subsidiary excludes compliance as to that subsidiary is accepted as valid in absence determination was arbitrary, capricious, or not supported by evidence.-----

627

When invitation for bids to rehabilitate and remodel apartment buildings requires bidders to complete appendix to invitation which is intended to implement Washington Plan that provides equal employment opportunity on Federal construction projects exceeding \$500,000, and which was issued pursuant to E.O. No. 11246, mere signing of appendix without submitting required specific percentage goals for minority manpower utilization renders low bid nonresponsive as completion of appendix is condition precedent to bid acceptance. Therefore, failure to furnish minority manpower goals is not minor informality that may be corrected or waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. and deficient bid is not eligible for award.-----

844

**Service Contract Act of 1965****Minimum wage, etc., determinations****Union agreement effect**

A reissued invitation for bids (IFB) to perform custodial services which provided for application of Service Contract Act of 1965, and contained revised wage determination by Dept. of Labor and "Successor Employers' Collective Bargaining Obligations" clause that recognized incumbent contractor's union bargaining agreement is not restrictive of competition and award may be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2305(c). Inclusion in IFB of Service Contract Act clause and revised determination was in accord with 29 CFR 4.6, and amendment to IFB to provide for revised wage determination conformed to par. 2-208 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., even though revision was not received at least 10 days before bid opening as required, since sufficient time was provided for acknowledgment of amendment -----

648

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Labor stipulations—Continued**

**“Successor employer” doctrine**

Selection of contractor for negotiation of cost-plus-award-fee type contract for support services at Kennedy Space Center that are being performed under expiring contract without binding selected contractor to “successor employer” doctrine that would impose terms of current collective bargaining agreements with incumbent union employees was valid exercise of discretion granted to contracting agency to award contract that will be most advantageous to Govt., since there is neither statutory nor judicial requirement that contractor who succeeds prior contractor in performance of service for Govt. at Govt. installation assume predecessor contractor’s bargaining agreement with its union employees; moreover, selected contractor proposes to recognize bargaining representatives of incumbent employees.....

592

Inclusion in invitation for bids of language regarding National Labor Relations Board *Burns* decision, 182 NLRB No. 50, on effect of existing collective bargaining agreements of employers upon successor employers does not require bidders to be bound by existing labor agreement as Govt. made no commitment regarding effect of decision but left matter to bidders to decide. It was not improper to place bidders on notice of *Burns* decision and incumbent contractor’s union bargaining agreement and as language used was merely advisory, invitation was not ambiguous. Extension of existent bargaining agreement beyond contract period is not prohibited by procurement statutes, and whether agreement is enforceable against followup employer is for courts to decide...

648

Bid submitted under invitation that incorporated Service Contract Act clause prescribed by par. 2-1004 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which provided for application of pertinent Dept. of Labor wage determination, and included information relating to “Successor Employers’ Collective Bargaining Obligations”—information bidder overlooked in preparing bid—may be withdrawn under mistake in bid principles enunciated in *Ruggiero v. U.S.*, 420 F. 2d 709, to effect law of mistaken bid includes mistakes which are inexplicable, and rule does not turn on any fault or ambiguity in specifications nor need contractor be free from blame. Therefore, since bidder was entitled to give consideration to impact of union agreement upon performance costs, and bid may not be corrected as agreed union rates were not factor in bid preparation, bid may be withdrawn from consideration.....

665

**Labor surplus area awards. (See Contracts, awards, labor surplus areas)**

**Letter requests for proposals**

**Two-step procurement**

**Bidder qualifications**

Under letter request, first step of two-step procurement, which contained “Bidder’s Technical Qualification Clause” stating technical proposals would be accepted only from those contractors who have manufactured and can demonstrate at operating airfield a Solid State Conventional Instrument Landing System, evaluation of capabilities of prime contractor and its subcontractor—French firm who manufactured and demonstrated system in France—although within policy enunciated in par. 4-117 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., which recognizes integrity and validity of contractor team arrangements, was

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

Letter requests for proposals—Continued

Two step procurement—Continued

Bidder qualifications—Continued

contrary to intent of clause, and proposal premised on subcontractor's system should not have been considered. Therefore, in future procurements, clause should specify permissible relationships or refer to ASPR provision -----

163

Mail transportation. (*See* Post Office Department, mails, transportation)

Mistakes

Allegation before award. (*See* Bids, mistakes)

Contracting officer's error detection duty

Notice of error

Lacking

Request for relief under sec. 17 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. authorizing extraordinary contractual actions to facilitate national defense made after contract completion and final payment on basis bid underpricing was due to unforeseen production difficulties and misleading vendor quotes is for denial where occurrence of mistake "so obvious it was or should have been apparent" is not demonstrated, and record establishes price bid was adequately verified and was intended, and only subsequent events resulted in unprofitable contract. Even assuming existence of bona fide mistake, fact that price bid greatly exceeded Govt.'s estimate intended as funding allocation, or that prior procurements for lesser quantities were priced much higher than group of bids in price range of successful bid did not place contracting officer on actual or constructive notice of error-----

39

Item not for evaluation

A mistake in per linear foot unit price of cable, price that would not be used for bid evaluation purposes but would be applicable should quantity of lump-sum purchase of cable be increased or decreased, and which relating to bid responsiveness would require bid rejection if not furnished, may be corrected and contract reformed to reflect intended bid price. Sec. 1-2.406-1 of Federal Procurement Regs. does not limit bid examination to those factors to be considered in bid evaluation, and in view of possibility that unit price would have substantial impact on price ultimately to be paid should right reserved to increase or decrease length of cable purchased be exercised, contracting officer should have compared unit prices and when aware of wide range of prices offered, verified erroneous unit price-----

151

Modification

Basis for contract reformation

A requirement in invitation for bids that contract be performed in restricted geographical area is reasonable limitation on competition when contracting agency needs prompt service and plant accessibility, and restriction relating to bidder responsibility, compliance with requirement results in valid contract. Therefore, although contractor's unauthorized action subsequent to contract awards to effect performance of printing of technical publications restricted to Dallas-Fort Worth area in San Antonio constitutes breach of contract and Govt. has vested right to insist on performance in restricted area, since performance in San Antonio area will not deprive Govt. of contemplated rights, con-

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Modification—Continued**

**Basis for contract reformation—Continued**

tracts may be modified to delete restriction with adequate price adjustment, however, future procurements should broaden competition by enlarging performance area-----

769

**Change orders**

**Within scope of contract**

Value engineering change substituting solid state tuner for electro-mechanical tuners intended as replacement components for Electronic Countermeasures Sets properly was effected by issuance of change order to sole producer of sets since competitive procurement was not required as change was within changes clause contained in letter contract for tuners and does not constitute "cardinal change" within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and par. 3-805 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. Change also is in accord with rule in *Keco Industries, Inc. v. United States*, 364 F. 2d 838, that in determining whether change is within general scope of contract, consideration should be given to both magnitude and quality of change and whether original purpose of contract had been substantially altered-----

540

Star route contracts. (See Post Office Department, star route contracts)

**Multi-year procurements**

**"Buy-ins" minimized**

Provision in solicitation for negotiation of fixed price, multi-year contract for ground simulator which provides that in evaluation of proposals Govt. would assess reasonableness, realism, and completeness of price proposals and that cost analysis and negotiation would be employed in interest of establishing sound prices does not require rejection of unrealistically low offer as provision serves only as aid in determining whether offeror understands scope of work, and in uncovering mistakes and "buy-ins" in violation of par. 1-311 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. Although multi-year procurement contains option that minimizes "buy-in," contract includes special clause to protect against recoupment of losses through change orders, and submission of different freeze dates that govern financial responsibility for engineering change orders has no significant effect on source selection-----

788

**Negotiation**

**Addenda acknowledgment requirement**

Acknowledgment of substantive amendment received after closing time for receipt of proposals under negotiated invitation for proposals issued pursuant to public exigency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (2), and which provides for award on basis of initial proposals, may be accepted and proposal considered in view of fact negotiation procedures are more flexible than those used for advertised procurements. However, as late acceptance of addendum involves actions that constitute discussion within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and par. 3-805.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., negotiations must be conducted with all offerors within competitive range to obtain "best and final" offers, for notwithstanding urgency of procurement, award may no longer be made on basis of initial proposals received-----

202

**CONTRACTS—Continued****Page****Negotiation—Continued****Administrative determination****Finality**

Solicitation of proposals on brand name basis without "or equal" provision in accordance with par. 1-1206.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under negotiation authority contained in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(7), and pursuant to "Determination and Findings" that sole source procurement of sterilizers to be purchased is justified, is restrictive of competition unless no other item will meet Govt.'s minimum requirements or no other but sole source manufacturer can produce acceptable sterilizer. Therefore, as there is nothing particularly unique about design or manufacture of brand name sterilizer, fact that it has proven satisfactory in use does not justify sole source procurement. Although justification for procurement is final determination, sole source solicitation stated in request for proposals should be eliminated-----

209

**Auction technique prohibition****Cutoff notice of negotiations**

While Govt.'s failure to establish common cutoff date under request for proposals for computer time and services prevented closing of negotiations, contracting officer's refusal to negotiate price reduction was proper in view of discussions constituting negotiations during which vital information concerning successful offeror's proposal was erroneously but innocently revealed, for to permit price reduction under circumstances would compromise Federal Procurement system by allowing auction technique precluded by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. Although contract awarded is not required to be terminated, in view of procedural deficiencies in procurement, contract option should not be exercised unless it is impracticable to reprocur services on equal competitive basis-----

222

**What constitutes**

Under request for proposals for Fleet Computer Programming Services, which was modified to remove as evaluation factor cost of failing to award contract to current contractor and possible organizational conflict of interest because one of offerors was performing as subcontractor on program to be analyzed by new contractor, and to revise the program's manhours, continuation of negotiations during which prices were disclosed does not constitute prohibited auction technique as no competitive advantage resulted to any offeror and technique *per se* is not inherently illegal. Substantial changes in requirements and in computer industry justified amendments to solicitation issued pursuant to par. 3-805.1(e) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and continuation of negotiations, therefore, last prices submitted may be opened and considered -----

619

**Audit requirements**

Failure to audit fourth and final round of proposals under solicitation for class destroyers did not violate pars. 3-101. 3-807.2(a), and 3-809 (b) (1) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR), where not only were proposed prices in each of first three rounds of negotiations audited and found to be based on sound business judgment, but ASPR provisions do not require audit of proposals on each and every round of negotiated procurement, and par. 3-809(b) (1) provides that audits may be waived



**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Audit requirements—Continued**

whenever it is clear that information already available is adequate for proposed procurement, and determination of "adequate" is within discretion of procuring activity and will not be questioned unless clearly erroneous -----

418

**Awards**

**Cancellation**

In evaluation of offers under request for proposals to furnish professional architectural and engineering services, application of transition cost factor to offer of only contractor who had not previously performed services without apprising offerors that this factor would be utilized in effecting award of contract thus eliminating contractor who was lowest priced responsible offeror from competition was unwarranted and action was inconsistent with sound procurement policy which dictates that offerors be informed of all evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor, nor was waiver of transition costs for successful offeror because of available qualified personnel justified. Therefore, since award was patently erroneous and without regard to established principles of competitive negotiation, contract should be terminated----

637

**Erroneous**

In negotiation of procurement, exception in 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) to conducting discussions with all responsible offerors within competitive range may not be invoked by contracting officer to make award to other than low responsible offeror where price is sole evaluation factor and, therefore, award to second low offeror, incumbent contractor, without obtaining Certificate of Competency (COC) on low offeror, a small business concern considered nonresponsible on factors relating to capacity and credit, was illegal and award should be canceled. No award should have been made unless SBA refused to issue COC or did not respond to referral within 15 days, or in alternative if low proposal was unacceptable without clarification, discussions should have been conducted with all offerors within competitive range-----

67

**Price one factor in determination**

Authority in sec. 1-3.805 of Federal Procurement Regs. to negotiate research and development, or cost-reimbursable, or special service contracts without price competition based solely on determination that particular contractor would furnish services of higher quality than any other contractor, does not cover selection of air tanker operators by Forest Service to fight forest fires as such service is not within categories contemplated by regulation for exception to price competition, and failure to include price as factor of contractor selection violates spirit and intent of Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and implementing regulations. Although it would not be in best interest of Govt. to disturb contracts awarded and options exercised, price inclusion in future offers will be required. B-157954, Dec. 15, 1965, modified-----

110

While rigid rules applicable to formally advertised procurements generally require award to lowest (price) responsive, responsible bidder, flexibility inherent in concept of negotiation permits award to be made to best advantage of Govt., price and other factors considered. Therefore,

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Awards—Continued****Price one factor in determination—Continued**

utilization in "competitive negotiation" of price as factor in selection of contractor will not adversely affect selection of qualified contractor by Forest Service for performance of firefighting services.....

110

**Propriety****Evaluation of proposals**

Under solicitation issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), inviting proposals on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis for research and development services to maintain wind tunnel, award on basis of price alone was justified where both offers received were technically acceptable, as concepts in pars. 3-805.2 and 4-106.5(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that price alone is not controlling factor relate to situations where favored offeror is significantly superior in technical ability and resources. Although award was not illegal because of failure to continue discussions with all offerors in competitive range when amendment change "Initial proposal" requirements of solicitation and to request "best and final" offers, and failure to specify all evaluation factors, such deficiencies should be avoided in future negotiated procurements.....

246

**Bidder qualification. (See Bidders, qualifications)****Changes during negotiation****Notification**

Where offers received under request for proposals issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), relative to contracting for experimental, developmental, or research work, were unacceptable and individual conferences were held with all offerors to clarify requirements for procurement of System-Multiplex-Analog, Data Acquisition Record and Reproduce Facility, and to give each contractor opportunity to justify any deviation offered and to modify proposal submitted, reopening of negotiations to inform offerors in competitive range of specification changes negotiated at individual conferences after date set for final offers that incorporated conference agreements was proper means of correcting suspected and discovered deficiencies in negotiation process and of overcoming presumption of unfairness raised because of inability of one offeror to meet specifications .....

114

**Changes, etc.****Specifications****Propriety of changes**

Under request for proposals for Fleet Computer Programming Services, which was modified to remove as evaluation factor cost of failing to award contract to current contractor and possible organizational conflict of interest because one of offerors was performing as subcontractor on program to be analyzed by new contractor, and to revise the program's manhours, continuation of negotiations during which prices were disclosed does not constitute prohibited auction technique as no competitive advantage resulted to any offeror and technique *per se* is not inherently illegal. Substantial changes in requirements and in computer industry justified amendments to solicitation issued pursuant to par. 3-805.1(e) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and continuation of negotiations, therefore, last prices submitted may be opened and considered.....

519

**CONTRACTS—Continued**  
**Negotiation—Continued**  
**Competition**  
**Adequate**

Page

Fact that several sources experienced in traffic control systems were not solicited to submit offers by Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, under request for proposals, does not establish that adequate competition and reasonable price were not obtained, since in resolving questions concerning adequacy of solicitation of supply sources the propriety of particular procurement must be determined from Govt.'s point of view upon basis of whether adequate competition and reasonable prices were obtained and not upon whether every possible supply source was offered opportunity to bid or submit proposal-----

565

Determination of date to be specified for receipt of proposals is matter of judgment properly vested in contracting agency; and where record evidences that 40-day period for submission of proposals on Urban Traffic Control System to Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, was adequate for any offeror who had interest in project, as well as experience, knowledge, systems expertise, and capability sufficient to meet requirements contained in request for proposals, it is concluded date specified for submission of offers was not arbitrarily or capriciously selected, nor was date unduly unrestrictive of competition for procurement -----

565

**Changes subsequent to negotiation**

**"Source selection" concept**

In negotiation under 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11) of cost-plus-incentive-fee research and development contract for radar sets where contracting agency left choice of one of three power tubes to be used to offerors, selection of other than low offeror on basis of change in tube preferred and acceptance of price reduction, although selected offeror was not "successful offeror" contemplated by par. 3-506(b) of ASPR, and business clearance required by ASPR 1-403 had not been satisfied, without giving all offerors within competitive range opportunity to compete on basis of its preference was inconsistent with concept of competitive negotiation, as time for negotiating price and technical aspects is during source selection competitive phase of negotiating process and, therefore, negotiations should be reopened to afford all offerors opportunity to revise their technical and price proposals-----

739

**Competitive range formula**

**Cost-type contract**

Although offeror's estimated prices are not deciding factor in selecting successful contractor under cost-reimbursement type contract negotiated pursuant to ASPR 3-805.2, contracting agency that during evaluation of proposals received under request for quotations soliciting preparation of Govt. publication on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis eliminates 25 points assigned to factor of reasonableness of cost in evaluation criteria, is required under ASPR 3-805.1 to continue negotiations with all offerors within competitive range. Therefore, award made solely on basis of technical superiority as being in best interest of Govt. without further negotiation with offerors who have necessary qualifications to perform procurement should be canceled-----

16

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Competition—Continued****Competitive range formula—Continued****Information disclosure**

Since to properly terminate close of negotiations, offerors must be advised that negotiations are being conducted; asked for their "best and final" offer and not merely to confirm prior submission; and informed that any revision of proposal must be submitted by common cutoff date, cutoff date prescribed by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. is considered essential and not *de minimis* requirement, and purposes of establishing common cutoff date would be frustrated if proposal revision were permitted after common cutoff date without opening new negotiations on basis that this procedure would be favorable to Govt.-----

117

**Manning information**

Although in evaluation of offers, information secured from manning chart may be considered "other factor" in determining whether offeror is within competitive range for purposes of conducting meaningful discussions required by 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), price factor of offer may not be disregarded and, therefore, award of contract to other than lowest offeror, who had submitted acceptable manning chart, under request for proposals to furnish mess attendant services for 1 year with 2-year renewal option was improper, but cancellation of award is not required as it was made in good faith and on basis of prior misinterpretations of phrase "price and other factors considered." However, option should not be exercised and proposals resolicited under revised procedures communicated to offerors and indicating factors on which award will be based -----

679

Rejection under request for proposals to furnish mess attendant services of current contractor on basis of deficient manning charts without informing contractor that written advice as to proposed manpower hours had been misinterpreted by contractor in its reply to concern price whereas its offer was considered outside competitive range prevented meaningful negotiations with contractor. Failure to inform offerors of all evaluation factors to be considered and relative weight of each factor although not conducive to obtaining proposals offering maximum competition and most reasonable prices, circumstances of awards do not disclose abuse of discretion by contracting officer on any basis for imputing bad faith on his part so as to affect legality of contract awarded and, therefore, award will not be disturbed-----

686

**Resources available for performance**

Request for proposals to operate Air Force facility overseas issued pursuant to authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (6) to negotiate contracts for services outside United States that failed to disclose predetermined minimum resource levels was defective and contributed to rejection of all but highest priced offer as technically unacceptable on basis that sufficient resources to perform were not demonstrated, and although contract awarded was contrary to "competitive negotiation" requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), because of essentiality of procurement, it will not be disturbed. However, although offeror's judgment of resources needed to

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Competition—Continued**

**Competitive range formula—Continued**

**Resources available for performance—Continued**

perform is major factor in determining capacity to perform and may be considered in determining competitive range, agency must also meet its obligation by disclosing minimum needs to insure maximum competition -----

670

**Discussion with all offerors requirement**

Fact that under 10 U.S.C. 2304 (g) written or oral discussion should be conducted with all responsible offerors whose proposals are within competitive range that encompasses both price and technical considerations does not permit use of any procedure that would disclose information during negotiation period to unfair competitive advantage of any proposer -----

1

Request for proposals that failed to include evaluation criteria or indicate criteria's relative importance because of erroneous belief these standards were inapplicable to civilian procurement was defective and was not in accordance with sound procurement policy and public interest. Also scoring of offer by comparison with predetermined score, overlooked that primary consideration in negotiated procurement is discussion with all offerors in competitive range and that borderline cases should not automatically be excluded from consideration, and as result maximum competition was not obtained. Request for proposals should be amended to establish omitted criteria and offerors permitted to submit additional information or revise proposals, and if within competitive range, afforded opportunity for discussion to extent required by sec. 1-3.802(c) of Federal Procurement Regs.-----

59

Acknowledgment of substantive amendment received after closing time for receipt of proposals under negotiated invitation for proposals issued pursuant to public exigency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (2), and which provides for award on basis of initial proposals, may be accepted and proposal considered in view of fact negotiation procedures are more flexible than those used for advertised procurements. However, as late acceptance of addendum involves actions that constitute discussion within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and par. 3-805.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., negotiations must be conducted with all offerors within competitive range to obtain "best and final" offers, for notwithstanding urgency of procurement, award may no longer be made on basis of initial proposals received.-----

202

**Nonresponsive proposals**

When proposal is determined upon initial evaluation to be outside competitive range, there is no requirement in accordance with sec. 1-3.805-1(a) of Federal Procurement Regs. to conduct further discussions concerning deficiencies of proposal, section requiring that after receipt of initial proposals, written or oral discussions should be conducted only with responsible offerors "who submitted proposals within a competitive range"-----

565

**CONTRACTS—Continued****Page****Negotiation—Continued****Competition—Continued****Discussion with all offerors requirement—Continued****Price sole evaluation factor**

In negotiation of procurement, exception in 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) to conducting discussions with all responsible offerors within competitive range may not be invoked by contracting officer to make award to other than low responsible offeror where price is sole evaluation factor and, therefore, award to second low offeror, incumbent contractor, without obtaining Certificate of Competency (COC) on low offeror, a small business concern considered nonresponsible on factors relating to capacity and credit, was illegal and award should be canceled. No award should have been made unless SBA refused to issue COC or did not respond to referral within 15 days, or in alternative if low proposal was unacceptable without clarification, discussions should have been conducted with all offerors within competitive range.-----

67

**Failure to solicit proposals from all sources**

Fact that several sources experienced in traffic control systems were not solicited to submit offers by Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, under request for proposals, does not establish that adequate competition and reasonable price were not obtained, since in resolving questions concerning adequacy of solicitation of supply sources the propriety of particular procurement must be determined from Govt.'s point of view upon basis of whether adequate competition and reasonable prices were obtained and not upon whether every possible supply source was offered opportunity to bid or submit proposal.-----

565

**Indefinite, etc., specifications**

Although it is incumbent upon Govt. agency to state material requirements of procurement in clear and unambiguous manner, should any aspect of solicitation require clarification, good faith and observance of spirit of competitive solicitation, as well as sound business practice on part of competitors for Govt. contracts, dictate that appropriate time for detailed examination of any provision considered to be ambiguous or confusing should be prior to time specified for submission of proposals or bids, and any unresolved ambiguities should be subject of timely protest.-----

565

**Maximum possible extent**

"Engineering-critical" designation assigned by agreement to replacement parts for engines developed at costs shared by manufacturer and Govt. to preclude use of data for competitive purposes because of difficulty to determine rights of parties, relating to restricted data rights and not to procurement methods, additional sources of supply may be developed by instituting appropriate tests and qualification procedures, provided rights of manufacturer are not infringed. Par. 1-313 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. requires competitive procurement of spare parts, and it would be contrary to concept of "maximum practical competition" to hold that "engineering-critical" item may not be procured competitively without regard to willingness and ability of other than sole source supplier to produce parts without infringement of proprietary rights -----

184

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Competition—Continued**

**Maximum possible extent—Continued**

Fact that proposal timely submitted by firm in response to notice of procurement in Commerce Business Daily had not been obtained from procuring agency does not justify refusal to consider offer on basis of unfairness to firms who had acquired request for proposals (RFP) from limited number made available on "first received, first served" basis but were not permitted to compete because of belief sufficient competition had been secured from firms selected to receive RFP, and unfairness to those firms unable to obtain RFP. Although purchasing agency may limit number of prospective contractors solicited, this authority is not justification for not considering unsolicited offer and for failing to obtain maximum competition. Therefore, proposal refused may be resubmitted and all offerors who had submitted proposals afforded opportunity to revise their proposals-----

215

**Prices**

Authority in sec. 1-3.805 of Federal Procurement Regs. to negotiate research and development, or cost-reimbursable, or special service contracts without price competition based solely on determination that particular contractor would furnish services of higher quality than any other contractor, does not cover selection of air tanker operators by Forest Service to fight forest fires as such service is not within categories contemplated by regulation for exception to price competition, and failure to include price as factor of contractor selection violates spirit and intent of Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and implementing regulations. Although it would not be in best interest of Govt. to disturb contracts awarded and options exercised, price inclusion in future offers will be required. B-157954, Dec. 15, 1965, modified-----

110

While rigid rules applicable to formally advertised procurements generally require award to lowest (price) responsive, responsible bidder, flexibility inherent in concept of negotiation permits award to be made to best advantage of Govt., price and other factors considered. Therefore, utilization in "competitive negotiation" of price as factor in selection of contractor will not adversely affect selection of qualified contractor by Forest Service for performance of firefighting services-----

110

**Conflicts of interest prohibition**

Determination and findings of conflict of interest in procurement of analysis and design services to update obsolescent automatic data processing equipment; and proposal that design contract ban successful contractor from participating in future procurement of hardware, satisfies requirement in Dept. of Defense Directive 5500.10 Rules for Avoidance of Organizational Conflicts of Interest, that contractor "agrees to prepare and furnish complete specifications," notwithstanding design contract does not constitute whole specifications and exclusion from ban of purchase of data processing equipment to be handled by other than procuring agency. However, to carry out intent of Directive, ban should extend to date of award of first production contract rather than specific date proposed-----

54

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Cost, etc., data****“Realism” of cost v. “reasonable” cost**

In award of cost-reimbursement contracts, procurement personnel are required to exercise informed judgments as to whether submitted proposals are realistic concerning proposed costs and technical approach, and such judgments must properly be left to administrative discretion of contracting agencies involved, since they are in best position to assess “realism” of costs and technical approaches, and must bear major criticism for any difficulties or expenses experienced by reason of defective cost analysis. Should Govt. fail to adequately measure “realism” of low quantum of costs, definition of “reasonable” cost to mean low cost *per se* on comparative basis would be improper for award purposes----

390

**Cutoff date****“Clean-up” sessions**

Where all proposals are evaluated on basis of same performance criteria, omission of precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process does not reflect on adequacy of evaluation criteria stated in request for proposals for ground simulator. Moreover, any doubt as to relative importance of evaluation should have been discussed and resolved before closing date set for receipt of proposals. Also use of negotiating procedure authorized in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) for multi-year procurement was proper because insufficiency of performance specifications did not permit advertising for bids or using two-step procedure, and “clean-up” sessions held after prescribed cutoff date to clarify matters verbally agreed upon was not prejudicial to any offeror, and sessions do not constitute violation of par. 3-805.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg.-----

788

**Notice sufficiency**

A telegram establishing cutoff date for negotiations, which instructed three offerors within competitive range—one whose timely offer under request for quotations was excessive, others whose late proposals were considered on basis of “Determination that an Otherwise Acceptable Offer is Unreasonable as to Price”—that if no proposal revision is received by cutoff date lowest offer submitted will be used for evaluation, accomplished same result as would cancellation and resolicitation of procurement, and served as adequate notice of cutoff date for submission of “best and final” offers within meaning of par. 3-805.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., prescribing method for terminating negotiations, even if telegram did not refer to Late Proposals provision of solicitation or inform offerors that only notices of unacceptability would be furnished between closing date for negotiations and date of award----

456

**Reopening of negotiations**

Where offers received under request for proposals issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), relative to contracting for experimental, developmental, or research work, were unacceptable and individual conferences were held with all offerors to clarify requirements for procurement of System-Multiplex-Analog, Data Acquisition Record and Reproduce Facility, and to give each contractor opportunity to justify any deviation offered and to modify proposal submitted, reopening of negotiations to inform offerors in competitive range of specification changes



**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Cutoff date—Continued**

**Reopening of negotiations—Continued**

negotiated at individual conferences after date set for final offers that incorporated conference agreements was proper means of correcting suspected and discovered deficiencies in negotiation process and of overcoming presumption of unfairness raised because of inability of one offeror to meet specifications.-----

114

Since to properly terminate close of negotiations, offerers must be advised that negotiations are being conducted; asked for their "best and final" offer and not merely to confirm prior submission; and informed that any revision of proposal must be submitted by common cutoff date, cutoff date prescribed by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. is considered essential and not *de minimis* requirement, and purposes of establishing common cutoff date would be frustrated if proposal revision were permitted after common cutoff date without opening new negotiations on basis that this procedure would be favorable to Govt.-----

117

Under request for proposals for Fleet Computer Programming Services, which was modified to remove as evaluation factor cost of failing to award contract to current contractor and possible organizational conflict of interest because one of offerors was performing as subcontractor on program to be analyzed by new contractor, and to revise the program's manhours, continuation of negotiations during which prices were disclosed does not constitute prohibited auction technique as no competitive advantage resulted to any offeror and technique *per se* is not inherently illegal. Substantial changes in requirements and in computer industry justified amendments to solicitation issued pursuant to par. 3-805.1(e) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and continuation of negotiations, therefore, last prices submitted may be opened and considered.-----

619

**Same for all proposers**

Failure to establish common cutoff date for negotiation of cost-plus-award-fee contract for final hardware design and development of Applications Technology Satellites (ATS) project with two offerors who had been awarded parallel contracts for preliminary analysis and feasibility studies of ATS, and premature distribution for evaluation of first final proposal received resulted in defective selective procedures prejudicial to contractor denied opportunity to compete on equal time basis and possibly overcome its price disadvantage, a situation compounded by premature distribution of proposal for cost evaluation. Therefore, proposed award to offeror advantaged by longer negotiation period should be reconsidered.-----

1

**Determination and findings**

**Basis of negotiation**

Solicitation of proposals on brand name basis without "or equal" provision in accordance with par. 1-1206.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under negotiation authority contained in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (7), and pursuant to "Determination and Findings" that sole source procurement of sterilizers to be purchased is justified, is restrictive of competition unless no other item will meet Govt.'s minimum requirements or no other but sole source manufacturer can produce acceptable sterilizer. Therefore, as there is nothing particularly unique about design

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Determination and findings—Continued****Basis of negotiation—Continued**

or manufacture of brand name sterilizer, fact that it has proven satisfactory in use does not justify sole source procurement. Although justification for procurement is final determination, sole source solicitation stated in request for proposals should be eliminated-----

209

**Disclosure of price, etc.****Auction technique prohibition**

While Govt.'s failure to establish common cutoff date under request for proposals for computer time and services prevented closing of negotiations, contracting officer's refusal to negotiate price reduction was proper in view of discussions constituting negotiations during which vital information concerning successful offeror's proposal was erroneously but innocently revealed, for to permit price reduction under circumstances would compromise Federal Procurement system by allowing auction technique precluded by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. Although contract awarded is not required to be terminated, in view of procedural deficiencies in procurement, contract option should not be exercised unless it is impracticable to reprocur services on equal competitive basis -----

222

**Evaluation factors****Cost of changing contractors**

In evaluation of offers under request for proposals to furnish professional architectural and engineering services, application of transition cost factor to offer of only contractor who had not previously performed services without apprising offerors that this factor would be utilized in effecting award of contract thus eliminating contractor who was lowest priced responsible offeror from competition was unwarranted and action was inconsistent with sound procurement policy which dictates that offerors be informed of all evaluation factors and relative importance of each factor, nor was waiver of transition costs for successful offeror because of available qualified personnel justified. Therefore, since award was patently erroneous and without regard to established principles of competitive negotiation, contract should be terminated----

637

**Criteria**

Request for proposals that failed to include evaluation criteria or indicate criteria's relative importance because of erroneous belief these standards were inapplicable to civilian procurement was defective and was not in accordance with sound procurement policy and public interest. Also scoring of offer by comparison with predetermined score, overlooked that primary consideration in negotiated procurement is discussion with all offerors in competitive range and that borderline cases should not automatically be excluded from consideration, and as result maximum competition was not obtained. Request for proposals should be amended to establish omitted criteria and offerors permitted to submit additional information or revised proposals, and within competitive range, afforded opportunity for discussion to extent required by sec. 1-3.802(c) of Federal Procurement Regs.-----

59

Where solicitation is deficient in not providing reasonably definite information as to relative importance of evaluation criteria or factors

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Evaluation factors—Continued**

**Criteria—Continued**

set out in request for proposals, and sufficiency of information is not questioned prior to submission of proposals, and record does not establish that any offeror was placed at competitive advantage or disadvantage by inadequacy of information, deficiency is not sufficiently material to disturb contract award.....

565

Where all proposals are evaluated on basis of same performance criteria, omission of precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process does not reflect on adequacy of evaluation criteria stated in request for proposals for ground simulator. Moreover, any doubt as to relative importance of evaluation should have been discussed and resolved before closing date set for receipt of proposals. Also use of negotiating procedure authorized in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) for multi-year procurement was proper because insufficiency of performance specifications did not permit advertising for bids or using two-step procedure, and "clean-up" sessions held after prescribed cutoff date to clarify matters verbally agreed upon was not prejudicial to any offeror, and sessions do not constitute violation of par. 3-805.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg.

788

**Factors other than price**

**Resources available for performance**

Request for proposals to operate Air Force facility overseas issued pursuant to authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (6) to negotiate contracts for services outside United States that failed to disclose predetermined minimum resource levels was defective and contributed to rejection of all but highest priced offer as technically unacceptable on basis that sufficient resources to perform were not demonstrated, and although contract awarded was contrary to "competitive negotiation" requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), because of essentiality of procurement, it will not be disturbed. However, although offeror's judgment of resources needed to perform is major factor in determining capacity to perform and may be considered in determining competitive range, agency must also meet its obligation by disclosing minimum needs to insure maximum competition...

670

**Firefighting contracts**

**Factors other than price**

Authority in sec. 1-3.805 of Federal Procurement Regs. to negotiate research and development, or cost-reimbursable, or special service contracts without price competition based solely on determination that particular contractor would furnish services of higher quality than any other contractor, does not cover selection of air tanker operators by Forest Service to fight forest fires as such service is not within categories contemplated by regulation for exception to price competition, and failure to include price as factor of contractor selection violates spirit and intent of Federal Property and Administrative Services Act and implementing regulations. Although it would not be in best interest of Govt. to disturb contracts awarded and options exercised, price inclusion in future offers will be required. B-157954, Dec. 15, 1965, modified.....

110

CONTRACTS—Continued

Page

Negotiation—Continued

Evaluation factors—Continued

Government property use

Although multiple awards to four offerors responding to solicitation issued under national emergency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(16), three operating Govt-owned contractor-operated facilities, for purpose of satisfying current needs and retaining suppliers for accelerated future demands, did not result in lowest individual offeror receiving award for maximum quantity, multiple awards produced lowest overall cost to Govt. and will not be disturbed, even though request for proposals (RFP) stated that it was expected one offeror would not be successful whereas awards were made to all offerors. Moreover, there was no quantity increase to require formal amendment to RFP, evaluation of proposals from offerors operating Govt. facilities was in accord with Bur. of Budget Cir. No. A-76, and failure to award all contracts simultaneously was justified, as was evaluation transportation factor used-----

777

Inflation and escalation recovery costs

Award under solicitation for class destroyers that provided for inclusion in price evaluation of inflation and escalation recovery factors, to offeror whose high initial target cost was reduced by evaluating estimated escalation recovery costs as greater than estimated inflation costs rather than to low base cost offeror displaced by inclusion in evaluation of estimated inflation costs that exceeded estimated escalation recovery factors, and of higher target profits, was proper. Award on basis of initial low target costs is not required where Govt. is protected from possibility of offerors manipulating inflation and escalation recovery factors, and recouping losses under reset provision of contract-----

418

Manning requirements

Although in evaluation of offers, information secured from manning chart may be considered "other factor" in determining whether offeror is within competitive range for purposes of conducting meaningful discussions required by 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), price factor of offer may not be disregarded and, therefore, award of contract to other than lowest offeror, who had submitted acceptable manning chart, under request for proposals to furnish mess attendant services for 1 year with 2-year renewal option was improper, but cancellation of award is not required as it was made in good faith and on basis of prior misinterpretations of phrase "price and other factors considered." However, option should not be exercised and proposals resolicited under revised procedures, communicated to offerors and indicating factors on which award will be based-----

679

Rejection under request for proposals to continue mess attendant services of current contractor on basis of deficient manning charts without informing contractor that written advice as to proposed manpower hours had been misinterpreted by contractor in its reply to concern price whereas its offer was considered outside competitive range, prevented meaningful negotiations with contractor. Failure to inform offerors of all evaluation factors to be considered and relative weight of each factor although not conducive to obtaining proposals offering maximum competition and most reasonable prices, circumstances of award do not disclose abuse of discretion by contracting officer on any basis for imputing bad faith on his part so as to affect legality of contract awarded and, therefore, award will not be disturbed-----

686

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Evaluation factors—Continued****Point rating****Competitive range formula**

Although offeror's estimated prices are not deciding factor in selecting successful contractor under cost-reimbursement type contract negotiated pursuant to ASPR 3-805.2, contracting agency that during evaluation of proposals received under request for quotations soliciting preparation of Govt. publication on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis eliminates 25 points assigned to factor of reasonableness of cost in evaluation criteria, is required under ASPR 3-805.1 to continue negotiations with all offerors within competitive range. Therefore, award made solely on basis of technical superiority as being in best interest of Govt. without further negotiation with offerors who have necessary qualifications to perform procurement should be canceled-----

16

**Criteria factors**

Where in evaluation of management, financial, and technical factors offered under request for quotations for operation overseas of communication system, offerors are found equally qualified technically on basis of normalizing results of numerical scoring system used by Source Selection Evaluation Board and analysis of Board's evaluation by Source Selection Advisory Council using its independent scoring and weighting—referred to as “no gain technique”—and on basis of reevaluating manpower proposals, award of cost-plus-award-fee contract to lowest offeror was proper, and award is unaffected by Advisory Council's deviation, with permission, from evaluation guidelines in Army Command Pamphlet 715-3, and by changes in scoring made between evaluations, since relative weights of evaluation criteria were preserved-----

390

Although offerors under request for quotations should be informed of relative weight or importance attached to each evaluation factor, there is no requirement to disclose precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process. If offeror is in doubt as to relative importance of evaluation criteria to be used, time for resolution of matter is before closing date set for receipt of quotations-----

390

In second evaluation of offers to operate communication system overseas, application of bonus and penalty points in weighting system, points not provided for in request for quotations, does not constitute substantive change that should have been furnished to all offerors by means of amendment, as purpose of weighting system was to enable Source Selection Advisory Council to apply its independent judgment to evaluation criteria considered by Source Selection Evaluation Board, and inclusion of additional points was in accord with procedures established prior to receipt of quotations-----

390

**Disclosure of evaluation base**

In awarding contract to highest offeror under request for proposals to conduct survey of minority firms on basis of point rating that was not structured to inform offerors of evaluation criteria to be used and relative importance of each factor, and without giving other offerors in competitive range the opportunity to discuss weaknesses, excesses, or deficiencies of their original proposals as required by sec. 1-3.805-1 of Federal Procurement Regs., principles of negotiated competitive pro-

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Evaluation factors—Continued****Point rating—Continued****Disclosure of evaluation base—Continued**

curement were not observed. However, contract having been completed, it would not be in best public interest to take any remedial action; but to insure that Govt. will obtain most advantageous contract available in future procurements, such procedures should be corrected.....

117

**Predetermined score**

Request for proposals that failed to include evaluation criteria or indicate criteria's relative importance because of erroneous belief these standards were inapplicable to civilian procurement was defective and was not in accordance with sound procurement policy and public interest. Also scoring of offer by comparison with predetermined score, overlooked that primary consideration in negotiated procurement is discussion with all offerors in competitive range and that borderline cases should not automatically be excluded from consideration, and as result maximum competition was not obtained. Request for proposals should be amended to establish omitted criteria and offerors permitted to submit additional information or revise proposals, and if within competitive range, afforded opportunity for discussion to extent required by sec. 1-3.802(c) of Federal Procurement Regs.....

59

**Propriety of evaluation**

Point system evaluation of proposals for computer time and services under which number of points to be awarded for basic costs is to be determined from offeror's "pricing out," or cost for requirements stated in sample problem included in solicitation that is not considered indicative of cost differences between suppliers for every proposed computer application contemplated under contract, but, rather, typical of work to be performed, is proper method of evaluation, notwithstanding amount of memory or core size was not frozen in sample, as factors frozen are of greater significance as to price than variations in core size of sample...

222

**Price elements for consideration**

Provision in solicitation for negotiation of fixed price, multi-year contract for ground simulator which provides that in evaluation of proposals Govt. would assess reasonableness, realism, and completeness of price proposals and that cost analysis and negotiation would be employed in interest of establishing sound prices does not require rejection of unrealistically low offer as provision serves only as aid in determining whether offeror understands scope of work, and in uncovering mistakes and "buy-ins" in violation of par. 1-311 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. Although multi-year procurement contains option that minimizes "buy-in," contract includes special clause to protect against recoupment of losses through change orders, and submission of different freeze dates that govern financial responsibility for engineering change orders has no significant effect on source selection.....

788

**Source Selection Board evaluation**

Where in evaluation of management, financial, and technical factors offered under request for quotations for operation overseas of communication system, offerors are found equally qualified technically on basis of normalizing results of numerical scoring system used by Source

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Evaluation factors—Continued**

**Source Selection Board evaluation—Continued**

[Selection Evaluation Board and analysis of Board's evaluation by Source Selection Advisory Council using its independent scoring and weighting—referred to as "no gain technique"—and on basis of reevaluating manpower proposals, award of cost-plus-award fee contract to lowest offeror was proper, and award is unaffected by Advisory Council's deviation, with permission, from evaluation guidelines in Army Command Pamphlet 715-3, and by changes in scoring made between evaluations, since relative weights of evaluation criteria were preserved.]

390

In second evaluation of offers to operate communication system overseas, application of bonus and penalty points in weighting system, points not provided for in request for quotations, does not constitute substantive change that should have been furnished to all offerors by means of amendment, as purpose of weighting system was to enable Source Selection Advisory Council to apply its independent judgment to evaluation criteria considered by Source Selection Evaluation Board, and inclusion of additional points was in accord with procedures established prior to receipt of quotations.

390

**"Successor employer" doctrine**

Selection of contractor for negotiation of cost-plus-award-fee type contract for support services at Kennedy Space Center that are being performed under expiring contract without binding selected contractor to "successor employer" doctrine that would impose terms of current collective bargaining agreements with incumbent union employees was valid exercise of discretion granted to contracting agency to award contract that will be most advantageous to Govt., since there is neither statutory nor judicial requirement that contractor who succeeds prior contractor in performance of service for Govt. at Govt. installation assume predecessor contractor's bargaining agreement with its union employees; moreover, selected contractor proposes to recognize bargaining representatives of incumbent employees.

592

**Superior product offered**

Under solicitation issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), inviting proposals on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis for research and development services to maintain wind tunnel, award on basis of price alone was justified where both offers received were technically acceptable, as concepts in pars. 3-805.2 and 4-106.5 (a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that price alone is not controlling factor relate to situations where favored offeror is significantly superior in technical ability and resources. Although award was not illegal because of failure to continue discussions with all offerors in competitive range when amendment changed "initial proposal" requirements of solicitation and to request "best and final" offers, and failure to specify all evaluation factors, such deficiencies should be avoided in future negotiated procurements.

246

**Late proposals and quotations**

**Acceptance in Government's interest**

Propriety of considering two proposals under amendment to small business set-aside for fin assemblies that changed quantities and delivery rates—one proposal from concern whose late offer had been rejected,

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Late proposals and quotations—Continued****Acceptance in Government's interest—Continued**

other from concern whose proposal under amendment was initial offer which is being considered for partial award of proposed low combination award—will not be questioned. Two late offerors having expended considerable time and effort in competing for procurement, and urgent need for supplies not warranting reopening of negotiations, desirability of applying late bid concept to negotiating area in these circumstances appears appropriate even though, generally, untimely submitted initial proposals will not be admitted into award competition.-----

547

**Multi-year procurements****Negotiated contracts**

Where all proposals are evaluated on basis of same performance criteria, omission of precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process does not reflect on adequacy of evaluation criteria stated in request for proposals for ground simulator. Moreover, any doubt as to relative importance of evaluation should have been discussed and resolved before closing date set for receipt of proposals. Also use of negotiating procedure authorized in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) for multi-year procurement was proper because insufficiency of performance specifications did not permit advertising for bids or using two-step procedure, and "clean-up" sessions held after prescribed cutoff date to clarify matters verbally agreed upon was not prejudicial to any offeror, and sessions do not constitute violation of par. 3-805.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg.-----

788

**Prebid conference requirement**

Mandatory requirement to attend prebid conference contained in request for proposals for purpose of explaining extremely complex project may not be considered condition precedent to submission of proposal, as conditions or requirements that tend to restrict competition are unauthorized unless reasonably necessary to accomplish legislative purposes of contract appropriation involved or are expressly authorized by statute. To satisfy maximum competitive requirements of Federal Procurement Regs., prospective offeror who failed to attend conference should be permitted to submit proposal and given copy of prebid transcript. However, date for receipt of proposals having passed, new closing date should be set to enable firm denied opportunity to participate to submit proposal, and responding offerors to revise proposals.-----

355

**Prices****Audit requirement**

Failure to audit fourth and final round of proposals under solicitation for class destroyers did not violate pars. 3-101, 3-807.2(a), and 3-809 (b) (1) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR), where not only were proposed prices in each of first three rounds of negotiations audited and found to be based on sound business judgment, but ASPR provisions do not require audit of proposals on each and every round of negotiated procurement, and par. 3-809(b) (1) provides that audits may be waived whenever it is clear that information already available is adequate for proposed procurement, and determination of "adequate" is within discretion of procuring activity and will not be questioned unless clearly erroneous -----

418



**CONTRACTS—Continued**  
**Negotiation—Continued**  
**Prices—Continued**  
**“Buy-ins”**

Page

Provision in solicitation for negotiation of fixed price, multi-year contract for ground simulator which provides that in evaluation of proposals Govt. would assess reasonableness, realism, and completeness of price proposals and that cost analysis and negotiation would be employed in interest of establishing sound prices does not require rejection of unrealistically low offer as provision serves only as aid in determining whether offeror understands scope of work, and in uncovering mistakes and “buy-ins” in violation of par. 1-311 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. Although multi-year procurement contains option that minimizes “buy-in,” contract includes special clause to protect against recoupment of losses through change orders, and submission of different freeze dates that govern financial responsibility for engineering change orders has no significant effect on source selection.....

788

**Reduction**

Acceptance of late reduction in price submitted by low offeror under request for quotations was in accord with par. 3-506(g) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that provides “a modification received from an otherwise successful offeror, which is favorable to the Government, shall be considered at any time that such modification is received,” and acceptance was not prejudicial to other offerors.....

456

**Public exigency**

**Failure to meet conditions**

Acknowledgment of substantive amendment received after closing time for receipt of proposals under negotiated invitation for proposals issued pursuant to public exigency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(2), and which provides for award on basis of initial proposals, may be accepted and proposal considered in view of fact negotiation procedures are more flexible than those used for advertised procurements. However, as late acceptance of addendum involves actions that constitute discussion within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and par. 3-805.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., negotiations must be conducted with all offerors within competitive range to obtain “best and final” offers, for notwithstanding urgency of procurement, award may no longer be made on basis of initial proposals received.....

202

**Request for proposals**

**Ambiguous**

Although it is incumbent upon Govt. agency to state material requirements of procurement in clear and unambiguous manner, should any aspect of solicitation require clarification, good faith and observance of spirit of competitive solicitation, as well as sound business practice on part of competitors for Govt. contracts, dictate that appropriate time for detailed examination of any provision considered to be ambiguous or confusing should be prior to time specified for submission of proposals or bids, and any unresolved ambiguities should be subject of timely protest .....

565

**Cancellation**

Although in evaluation of offers, information secured from manning chart may be considered “other factor” in determining whether offeror is within competitive range for purposes of conducting meaningful dis-

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Request for proposals—Continued****Cancellation—Continued**

cussions required by 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), price factor of offer may not be disregarded and, therefore, award of contract to other than lowest offeror, who had submitted acceptable manning chart, under request for proposals to furnish mess attendant services for 1 year with 2-year renewal option was improper, but cancellation of award is not required as it was made in good faith and on basis of prior misinterpretations of phrase "price and other factors considered." However, option should not be exercised and proposals resolicited under revised procedures, communicated to offerors and indicating factors on which award will be based -----

679

Rejection under request for proposals to continue mess attendant services of current contractor on basis of deficient manning charts without informing contractor that written advice as to proposed manpower hours had been misinterpreted by contractor in its reply to concern price whereas its offer was considered outside competitive range, prevented meaningful negotiations with contractor. Failure to inform offerors of all evaluation factors to be considered and relative weight of each factor although not conducive to obtaining proposals offering maximum competition and most reasonable prices, circumstances of award do not disclose abuse of discretion by contracting officer on any basis for imputing bad faith on his part so as to affect legality of contract awarded and, therefore, award will not be disturbed.-----

686

**Date for receipt extended**

Mandatory requirement to attend prebid conference contained in request for proposals for purpose of explaining extremely complex project may not be considered condition precedent to submission of proposal, as conditions or requirements that tend to restrict competition are unauthorized unless reasonably necessary to accomplish legislative purposes of contract appropriation involved or are expressly authorized by statute. To satisfy maximum competitive requirements of Federal Procurement Regs., prospective offeror who failed to attend conference should be permitted to submit proposal and given copy of prebid transcript. However, date for receipt of proposals having passed, new closing date should be set to enable firm denied opportunity to participate to submit proposal, and responding offerors to revise proposals.-----

355

**Defective****Predetermined resources for performance**

Request for proposals to operate Air Force facility overseas issued pursuant to authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(6) to negotiate contracts for services outside United States that failed to disclose predetermined minimum resource levels was defective and contributed to rejection of all but highest priced offer as technically unacceptable on basis that sufficient resources to perform were not demonstrated, and although contract awarded was contrary to "competitive negotiation" requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), because of essentiality of procurement, it will not be disturbed. However, although offeror's judgment of resources needed to perform is major factor in determining capacity to perform and may

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued**

**Request for proposals—Continued**

**Defective—Continued**

**Predetermined resources for performance—Continued**

be considered in determining competitive range, agency must also meet its obligation by disclosing minimum needs to insure maximum competition -----

670

**Distribution limitation**

Fact that proposal timely submitted by firm in response to notice of procurement in Commerce Business Daily had not been obtained from procuring agency does not justify refusal to consider offer on basis of unfairness to firms who had acquired request for proposals (RFP) from limited number made available on "first received, first served" basis but were not permitted to compete because of belief sufficient competition had been secured from firms selected to receive RFP, and unfairness to those firms unable to obtain RFP. Although purchasing agency may limit number of prospective contractors solicited, this authority is not justification for not considering unsolicited offer and for failing to obtain maximum competition. Therefore, proposal refused may be resubmitted and all offerors who had submitted proposals afforded opportunity to revise their proposals-----

215

**Minimum needs requirement**

**Same for all offerors**

In procurement under request for proposals of ground simulator to be used to support training of navigators where proposal deficiencies were identified, clarified, Govt. work statement changed, and contractors allowed to determine manner of correction, since minimum requirements in several critical high cost areas established by oral clarification with one offeror were not reflected in any formal amendment, possibility that all offerors were not committed to same minimum requirements has been dispelled by independent examination made by National Bur. of Standards of technical proposals, examination conducted by Bureau as U.S. GAO was not equipped to evaluate undertakings represented in technical proposals submitted-----

788

**Submission date**

Determination of date to be specified for receipt of proposals is matter of judgment properly vested in contracting agency; and where record evidences that 40-day period for submission of proposals on Urban Traffic Control System to Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, was adequate for any offeror who had interest in project, as well as experience, knowledge, systems expertise, and capability sufficient to meet requirements contained in request for proposals, it is concluded date specified for submission of offers was not arbitrarily or capriciously selected, nor was date unduly restrictive of competition for procurement -----

565

**Sole source basis**

**Authority**

Offeror who was granted court injunction to prevent opening of bids and award of contract under two-step procurement, and who protested use of two-step method to obtain ship's hull side blast-cleaning unit, stating Navy was required pursuant to pars. 3-108 and 3-214 of Armed

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Negotiation—Continued****Sole source basis—Continued****Authority—Continued**

Services Procurement Reg. to negotiate sole source contract with it as developer of unit, has no basis for objection. Secretary only has authority to determine that sole source procurement to avoid duplication of investment and effort is justified, and evidence did not warrant invoking his authority; and as conditions prescribed in par. 2-502(a) of regulation for use of two-step method of procurement existed, determination to use this method was within cognizance of procurement officers-----

346

**Broadening competition**

"Engineering-critical" designation assigned by agreement to replacement parts for engines developed at costs shared by manufacturer and Govt. to preclude use of data for competitive purposes because of difficulty to determine rights of parties, relating to restricted data rights and not to procurement methods, additional sources of supply may be developed by instituting appropriate tests and qualification procedures, provided rights of manufacturer are not infringed. Par. 1-313 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. requires competitive procurement of spare parts, and it would be contrary to concept of "maximum practical competition" to hold that "engineering-critical" item may not be procured competitively without regard to willingness and ability of other than sole-source supplier to produce parts without infringement of proprietary rights-----

184

Solicitation of proposals on brand name basis without "or equal" provision in accordance with par. 1-1206.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under negotiation authority contained in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (7), and pursuant to "Determination and Findings" that sole source procurement of sterilizers to be purchased is justified, is restrictive of competition unless no other item will meet Govt.'s minimum requirements or no other but sole source manufacturer can produce acceptable sterilizer. Therefore, as there is nothing particularly unique about design or manufacture of brand name sterilizer, fact that it has proven satisfactory in use does not justify sole source procurement. Although justification for procurement is final determination, sole source solicitation stated in request for proposals should be eliminated-----

209

**Unsolicited proposals****Acceptance**

Fact that proposal timely submitted by firm in response to notice of procurement in Commerce Business Daily had not been obtained from procuring agency does not justify refusal to consider offer on basis of unfairness to firms who had acquired request for proposals (RFP) from limited number made available on "first received, first served" basis but were not permitted to compete because of belief sufficient competition had been secured from firms selected to receive RFP, and unfairness to those firms unable to obtain RFP. Although purchasing agency may limit number of prospective contractors solicited, this authority is not justification for not considering unsolicited offer and for failing to obtain maximum competition. Therefore, proposal refused may be resubmitted and all offerors who had submitted proposals afforded opportunity to revise their proposals-----

215

CONTRACTS—Continued

Page

Options

Not to be exercised

Procedural deficiencies in procurement

While Govt.'s failure to establish common cutoff date under request for proposals for computer time and services prevented closing of negotiations, contracting officer's refusal to negotiate price reduction was proper in view of discussions constituting negotiations during which vital information concerning successful offeror's proposal was erroneously but innocently revealed, for to permit price reduction under circumstances would compromise Federal Procurement system by allowing auction technique precluded by sec. 1-3.805-1(b) of Federal Procurement Regs. Although contract awarded is not required to be terminated, in view of procedural deficiencies in procurement, contract option should not be exercised unless it is impracticable to reprocur services on equal competitive basis-----

222

Although in evaluation of offers, information secured from manning chart may be considered "other factor" in determining whether offeror is within competitive range for purposes of conducting meaningful discussions required by 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), price factor of offer may not be disregarded and, therefore, award of contract to other than lowest offeror, who had submitted acceptable manning chart, under request for proposals to furnish mess attendant services for 1 year with 2-year renewal option was improper, but cancellation of award is not required as it was made in good faith and on basis of prior misinterpretations of phrase "price and other factors considered." However, option should not be exercised and proposals resolicited under revised procedures, communicated to offerors and indicating factors on which award will be based -----

679

Payments

Assignment. (See Claims, assignment)

Propriety

Propriety of Forest Service of Dept. of Agriculture to use appropriation entitled "Forest Protection and Utilization" for payment of plastic litter bags is for determination on basis of whether contract involved is reasonably necessary or incident to execution of program or activity authorized by appropriation. If no other appropriation provides more specifically for items such as litter bags, appropriation may be used to satisfy contract-----

534

Withholding

Protect interests of United States

Withholding 10 percent from progress payments due on each job order until expiration of 60-day guarantee period prescribed in Master Contract for Repair and Alteration of Vessels is not required where work is performed in accordance with contract terms and redelivered ship accepted by Govt. Express warranty clauses in contract neither excuse nor suspend obligation to make payment after contractor completes work under each job order, nor does payment clause require expiration of warranty period before payment is made; and neither of clauses prescribe additional work, but rather affix liability in monetary terms or through corrective action by contractor for prior acts or omissions for 60 days after completion of work covered by job order-----

263

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Performance****Geographical area restriction breached****Price reduction**

A requirement in invitation for bids that contract be performed in restricted geographical area is reasonable limitation on competition when contracting agency needs prompt service and plant accessibility, and restriction relating to bidder responsibility, compliance with requirement results in valid contract. Therefore, although contractor's unauthorized action subsequent to contract awards to effect performance of printing of technical publications restricted to Dallas-Fort Worth area in San Antonio constitutes breach of contract and Govt. has vested right to insist on performance in restricted area, since performance in San Antonio area will not deprive Govt. of contemplated rights, contracts may be modified to delete restriction with adequate price adjustment, however, future procurements should broaden competition by enlarging performance area-----

769

**Stop orders**

Issuance of stop order pending resolution of bid protest, and cancellation of award to second low bidder to award contract to low bidder whose aggregate firm bid conforming to bid instructions that were overlooked in evaluation process was displaced by erroneous application of unit price rule to estimated data prices, were proper administrative actions, notwithstanding contract did not provide for stop orders, since authority to issue stop orders is not dependent on contract provision but on whether action is necessary in interest of Govt., and procurement subject to statutory requirement that award be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder, erroneous award which did not involve exercise of any authorized discretion did not create binding contract, and cancellation of award was legally permissible-----

447

While par. 2-407.8(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. provides that contracting officer seek mutual agreement with successful bidder to suspend performance of contract on no-cost basis when it appears likely that award may be invalidated and delay receipt of supplies and services, it does not bar issuance of stop order in event contractor declines to cooperate with contracting agency-----

447

**Prices****Underpricing****Subsequent developments**

Request for relief under sec. 17 of Armed Services Procurement authorizing extraordinary contractual actions to facilitate national defense made after contract completion and final payment on basis bid underpricing was due to unforeseen production difficulties and misleading vendor quotes is for denial where occurrence of mistake "so obvious it was or should have been apparent" is not demonstrated, and record establishes price bid was adequately verified and was intended, and only subsequent events resulted in unprofitable contract. Even assuming existence of bona fide mistake, fact that price bid greatly exceeded Govt.'s estimate intended as funding allocation, or that prior procurements for lesser quantities were priced much higher than group of bids in price range of successful bid did not place contracting officer on actual or constructive notice of error-----

89

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Proprietary, etc., data. (See Contracts, data, rights, etc.)**

**Protests**

**Filing before or after award**

Under procedure in 4 CFR 20.1, bid protest may be filed with U.S. GAO before as well as after award of contract and, therefore, in filing protest to award under request for proposals, regulation does not require, as prerequisite to standing or timeliness, that award should have been made or that offeror should have been informed of unacceptability of his proposal-----

59

**Persons qualified to protest**

The discarding of all bids for movement or storage of personal property by naval installation upon discovering that item in one of three service schedules was 100 percent overstated in invitation for bids was proper administrative determination pursuant to par. 2-404.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., notwithstanding protesting bidder may not be qualified bidder, as any bidder may properly bring to attention of concerned Govt. officials any factor indicating that particular procurement action is defective. Also since reissued invitation contained erroneous weight estimate and misstated actual operating authorities necessary to perform solicited services, this second invitation, too, may be canceled-----

753

**Timeliness**

Although it is incumbent upon Govt. agency to state material requirements of procurement in clear and unambiguous manner, should any aspect of solicitation require clarification, good faith and observance of spirit of competitive solicitation, as well as sound business practice on part of competitors for Govt. contracts, dictate that appropriate time for detailed examination of any provision considered to be ambiguous or confusing should be prior to time specified for submission of proposals or bids, and any unresolved ambiguities should be subject of timely protest -----

565

Where all proposals are evaluated on basis of same performance criteria, omission of precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process does not reflect on adequacy of evaluation criteria stated in request for proposals for ground simulator. Moreover, any doubt as to relative importance of evaluation should have been discussed and resolved before closing date set for receipt of proposals. Also use of negotiating procedure authorized in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) for multi-year procurement was proper because insufficiency of performance specifications did not permit advertising for bids or using two-step procedure, and "clean-up" sessions held after prescribed cutoff date to clarify matters verbally agreed upon was not prejudicial to any offeror, and sessions do not constitute violation of par. 3-805.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg-----

788

**Tolling of bid acceptance period**

Where second low bidder, during period for accepting its bid, filed protest with U.S. GAO as to unacceptability of low bid, consideration of its bid submitted under invitation for bids on electronic equipment is not precluded because bid acceptance period was extended only after acceptance date had expired, since filing of protest tolled expiration of bid acceptance period until after resolution of protest. As no other

**CONTRACTS—Continued****Page****Protests—Continued****Tolling of bid acceptance period—Continued**

bidder is eligible for award, integrity of competitive system is not involved; and, therefore, there is no "compelling reason" to reject second low bid. However, in future procurements should award be delayed until after expiration of bid acceptance period, procedures prescribed in secs. 1-2.404-1(c) and 1-2.407-8(b) (2) of Federal Procurement Regs. should be followed.-----

357

**Qualified products.** (*See* Contracts, specifications, qualified products)

**Requests for quotations**

**Cost-plus contracts.** (*See* Contracts, cost-plus)

**Evaluation factors****Disclosure**

Although offerors under request for quotations should be informed of relative weight or importance attached to each evaluation factor, there is no requirement to disclose precise numerical weights to be used in evaluation process. If offeror is in doubt as to relative importance of evaluation criteria to be used, time for resolution of matter is before closing date set for receipt of quotations.-----

390

In second evaluation of offerors to operate communication system overseas, application of bonus and penalty points in weighting system, points not provided for in request for quotations, does not constitute substantive change that should have been furnished to all offerors by means of amendment, as purpose of weighting system was to enable Source Selection Advisory Council to apply its independent judgment to evaluation criteria considered by Source Selection Evaluation Board, and inclusion of additional points was in accord with procedures established prior to receipt of quotations.-----

390

**Requirements****Minimum quantities**

Request for proposals to furnish requirements for 10 different types of diesel-electric generator sets, that stated Govt.'s best estimate of total quantities needed but did not, because of lack of funds, guarantee purchase of minimum quantities, contemplates requirements-type contract within meaning of par. 3-409.2(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and use of such contract is valid since there is no evidence Govt.'s estimate of probable needs was arrived at in bad faith, and agreement to procure all requirements without stating minimum guarantees constitutes adequate consideration. However, when funds are available and needs can be ascertained with reasonable certainty, use of more definite type contract would be assurance that firm minimum quantities, commensurate to maximum extent with estimated requirements, will be ordered.-----

506

**Small business set-asides****Certificate of Competency procedure**

Under small business set-aside for award of requirements type contract, evaluation of low bid for purpose of Certificate of Competency (COC) procedures on basis of initial quantity to be purchased rather than estimated quantity to be ordered during contract period was inconsistent with use of estimated quantity to determine low bidder and to perform preaward survey, and resulted in erroneous refusal of contract-



**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Requirements—Continued**

**Small business set-asides—Continued**

**Certificate of Competency procedure—Continued**

ing officer to refer low bidder's unfavorable preaward survey to Small Business Administration (SBA) as required by par. 1-705(c) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR). Therefore, procedure in ASPR 1-705.4(c) (vi) should be implemented and if SBA determines that COC is still valid, contract awarded should be canceled and award made to is still valid, contract awarded should be canceled and award made to low bidder-----

799

**Worldwide performance locations**

Invitation for bids that contemplates construction type requirements contract for reconditioning and maintenance of radomes located worldwide, and which requested one bid price for each type service for particular size radome regardless of location and made site inspection impracticable, is not deficient invitation and need not be revised to require separate bids for more than 200 possible performance sites—an insurmountable administrative workload—to allow for varying travel and transportation expense factors since regardless of location, work is essentially same at each site, making site inspections unnecessary, and scheduling of service consecutively for adjacent locations will minimize travel expenses. Requirements contracts are valid and contracting agency unable to state locations and performance dates, having estimated its requirements in good faith may make award under invitation--

830

Davis-Bacon Act provisions and wage determinations in invitation for bids that were to apply only to some of worldwide performance sites at which radomes are to be reconditioned and maintained under requirements contract, which were deleted by amendment upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, need not be reinstated because suspension of act was revoked by Proclamation 4040. Determination to resolicit procurement and include Davis-Bacon Act provisions although recommended was left to discretion of contracting agencies by Dept. of Labor, and determination having been made that resolicitation of procurement would be prejudicial to bidders, contract without provisions may be awarded to lowest responsive and responsible bidder-----

830

**Research and development**

**Conflicts of interest prohibition**

Determination and findings of conflict of interest in procurement of analysis and design services to update obsolescent automatic data processing equipment, and proposal that design contract ban successful contractor from participating in future procurement of hardware, satisfies requirement in Dept. of Defense Directive 5500.10, Rules for Avoidance of Organizational Conflicts of Interest, that contractor "agrees to prepare and furnish complete specifications," notwithstanding design contract does not constitute whole specification and exclusion from ban of purchase of data processing equipment to be handled by other than procuring agency. However, to carry out intent of Directive, ban should extend to date of award of first production contract rather than specific date proposed-----

54

Federal Highway Administration, Dept. of Transportation, in awarding cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for Urban Traffic Control System

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Research and development—Continued****Conflicts of interest prohibition—Continued**

(UTOS) to offeror that had prepared specifications for system under research and development study, did not violate any mandatory regulations, since Federal Procurement Regs. do not contain organizational conflicts of interest provision and Dept. has not issued specific rules governing conflicts of interests, and even if Administration was subject to Dept. of Defense Directive 5500.10, "Rules for the Avoidance of Organizational Conflicts of Interest," which it is not, Directive is not self-executing and would not apply in absence of notice to prospective contractors and inclusion of restrictive clause in contract. Moreover, whether UTOS program represents judicious, as distinguished from legal, expenditure of public funds would not affect legality of contract.---

565

**Price factor**

Under solicitation issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), inviting proposals on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis for research and development services to maintain wind tunnel, award on basis of price alone was justified where both offers received were technically acceptable, as concepts in pars. 3-805.2 and 4-106.5(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that price alone is not controlling factor relate to situations where favored offeror is significantly superior in technical ability and resources. Although award was not illegal because of failure to continue discussions with all offerors in competitive range when amendment changed "initial proposal" requirements of solicitation and to request "best and final" offers, and failure to specify all evaluation factors, such deficiencies should be avoided in future negotiated procurements.-----

246

**Technical deficiencies of proposals****Correction**

Where offers received under request for proposals issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), relative to contracting for experimental, developmental, or research work, were unacceptable and individual conferences were held with all offerors to clarify requirements for procurement of System-Multiplex-Analog, Data Acquisition Record and Reproduce Facility, and to give each contractor opportunity to justify any deviation offered and to modify proposal submitted, reopening of negotiations to inform offerors in competitive range of specification changes negotiated at individual conferences after date set for final offers that incorporated conference agreements was proper means of correcting suspected and discovered deficiencies in negotiation process and of overcoming presumption of unfairness raised because of inability of one offeror to meet specifications.-----

114

Sales, generally. (*See Sales*)

Samples. (*See Contracts, specifications, samples*)

Service Contract Act. (*See Contracts, labor stipulations, Service Contract Act of 1965*)

Small business concern awards. (*See Contracts, awards, small business concerns*)

Sole source procurements. (*See Contracts, negotiation, sole source basis*)

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued****Changes, revisions, etc.—Continued****Davis-Bacon Act provisions—Continued**

act was revoked by Proclamation 4040. Determination to resolicit procurement and include Davis-Bacon Act provisions although recommended was left to discretion of contracting agencies by Dept. of Labor, and determination having been made that resolicitation of procurement would be prejudicial to bidders, contract without provisions may be awarded to lowest responsive and responsible bidder.....

830

**Conformability of equipment, etc., offered****Ambiguous bids**

Unsolicited insertion of plant part numbers in low bid to furnish engine air filters without express statement that specifications would be complied with created ambiguity that may not be resolved by reference to "catalog cut sheets" and other data available to Govt. before bid opening, as reliance on this information would afford bidder option to affect responsiveness of bid—an option detrimental to the competitive bidding system. Therefore, as contracting officer cannot determine whether bidder offered conforming article or that part numbers were included for purpose of internal control, bid is considered qualified bid and may not be considered for award.....

8

**Superior product offered**

Under solicitation issued pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (11), inviting proposals on cost-plus-a-fixed-fee basis for research and development services to maintain wind tunnel, award on basis of price alone was justified where both offers received were technically acceptable, as concepts in pars. 3-805.2 and 4-106.5(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. that price alone is not controlling factor relate to situations where favored offeror is significantly superior in technical ability and resources. Although award was not illegal because of failure to continue discussions with all offerors in competitive range when amendment changed "initial proposal" requirements of solicitation and to request "best and final" offers, and failure to specify all evaluation factors, such deficiencies should be avoided in future negotiated procurements.....

246

**Technical deficiencies****Determination by other than contracting agency**

In procurement under request for proposals of ground simulator to be used to support training of navigators where proposal deficiencies were identified, clarified, Govt. work statement changed, and contractors allowed to determine manner of correction, since minimum requirements in several critical high cost areas established by oral clarification with one offeror were not reflected in any formal amendment, possibility that all offerors were not committed to same minimum requirements has been dispelled by independent examination made by National Bur. of Standards of technical proposals, examination conducted by Bureau as U.S. GAO was not equipped to evaluate undertakings represented in technical proposals submitted.....

788

**Negotiated procurement**

Request for proposals to operate Air Force facility overseas issued pursuant to authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (6) to negotiate contracts for services outside United States that failed to disclose predetermined

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications**

**Adequacy**

**Timeliness of bidder's protest**

Low bidder who after bid opening objected to use of brand name or equal invitation which listed 47 salient characteristics that did not include technical data for electronic receivers to be purchased, on basis unlisted data could have been quickly summarized and purchase description prepared that would meet requirements of sec. 1-1.307-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for clear and accurate description of technical requirement, should have lodged his complaint before bids were opened. Invitation for bids clearly stated salient characteristics and other criteria on which bids were to be evaluated, and bidder having participated in brand name or equal procurement to point of bid opening is deemed to have acquiesced in evaluation criteria set out in invitation-----

193

**Amendments**

**Basis for requirement**

Although multiple awards to four offerors responding to solicitation issued under national emergency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (16), three operating Govt-owned contractor-operated facilities, for purpose of satisfying current needs and retaining suppliers for accelerated future demands, did not result in lowest individual offeror receiving award for maximum quantity, multiple awards produced lowest overall cost to Govt. and will not be disturbed, even though request for proposals (RFP) stated that it was expected one offeror would not be successful whereas awards were made to all offerors. Moreover, there was no quantity increase to require formal amendment to RFP, evaluation of proposals from offerors operating Govt. facilities was in accord with Bur. of Budget Cir. No. A-76, and failure to award all contracts simultaneously was justified, as was evaluation transportation factor used-----

777

**Furnishing requirement**

Requirement in par. 2-208(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. (ASPR) that amendments to invitations for bids must be sent to everyone to whom invitations had been furnished has reference to amendments issued under competitive system prior to opening of bids; and, therefore, amendment issued after closing date for receipt of technical proposals to only two concerns out of 37 potential suppliers solicited under first step of two-step procurement who had responded to Request for Technical Proposals (RFTP) was proper and in accord with ASPR 3-805.1 (e), relative to changes occurring in requirements during negotiations. In fact, if firms who had not responded to RFTP had been furnished copies of amendment and responded, provisions of "Late Proposals and Modifications" clause would be for application-----

346

**Brand name or equal. (See Contracts, specifications, restrictive, particular name)**

**Changes, revisions, etc.**

**Davis-Bacon Act provisions**

Davis-Bacon Act provisions and wage determinations in invitation for bids that were to apply only to some of worldwide performance sites at which radomes are to be reconditioned and maintained under requirements contract, which were deleted by amendment upon issuance of Presidential Proclamation 4031, need not be reinstated because suspension of

CONTRACTS—Continued

Page

Specifications—Continued

Conformability of equipment, etc., offers—Continued

Technical deficiencies—Continued

Negotiated procurement—Continued

minimum resource levels was defective and contributed to rejection of all but highest priced offer as technically unacceptable on basis that sufficient resources to perform were not demonstrated, and although contract awarded was contrary to "competitive negotiation" requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), because of essentiality of procurement, it will not be disturbed. However, although offeror's judgment of resources needed to perform is major factor in determining capacity to perform and may be considered in determining competitive range, agency must also meet its obligation by disclosing minimum needs to insure maximum competition -----

670

Defective

Cancellation of invitation

Invitation for bids that states required man-year level of effort to perform engineering services for systems and program definition of combat systems maintenance training facility at erroneously fixed rather than estimated level, fails to show Govt.'s minimum needs and, therefore, successful contractor would be unable to produce results required in view of correlation between level of effort and ultimate work product. Failure to accurately reflect man-year level of effort required constitutes compelling reason for canceling invitation contemplated by par. 2-404.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and for readvertisement of procurement. However, cancellation emphasizes need for effective administrative definition and expression of Govt.'s requirements during procurement planning process.-----

50

Descriptive data

Voluntary submission

Nonconformance to specifications

Determination to open late bid received on one of two technical proposals submitted under first step of two-step procurement and found acceptable, even though equipment offered did not meet all details of specifications, was proper since delay in delivery of bid received more than 24 hours before bid opening was due to Govt. mishandling. Although bid was accompanied by covering letter and unsolicited descriptive literature at variance with specifications, it is nevertheless responsive bid; for it is inconceivable that low bidder, who had qualified under first step, would disqualify itself in second step and, therefore, deviating material is viewed as attempt to identify which of two accepted first-step proposals was being priced in second step.-----

337

Deviations

Informal v. substantive

Bid prices incident to aggregate award

Failure to submit price for one of four military installations at which delivery is to be made of coveralls solicited under invitation that requested individual prices on quantities specified for each installation is not clerical oversight that may be waived as minor irregularity pursuant to par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg., and omitted price may not be inserted on basis single price quoted for other three installations applies to entire quantity solicited because bidder had

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued****Deviations—Continued****Informal v. substantive—Continued****Bid prices incidents to aggregate award—Continued**

checked block captioned "100% of all quantities to be awarded or none" in bid form, nor may nonresponsive bid be considered for partial award. As award of whole contract is in best interests of Govt., it may be made to responsive and responsible bidder offering low aggregate bid whose per unit net price for entire procurement is reasonable although slightly higher than that of nonresponsive bidder-----

852

**Block bidding**

Quantity Limitation Prohibition Clause intended to prevent block bidding that was included in invitation for bids to manufacture flight jackets for delivery at several destinations which provided each bidder may submit one quantity *only* at one price for each item bid, and may stipulate maximum/minimum quantity acceptable for each item or over-all procurement caused no ambiguity in invitation, and offer bidding on first 7,470 for each destination and then including this same quantity with additional 1,000 for next increment of 8,470 each and so on until each additional 1,000 added thereon reached total procurement quantity of 16,470 each, offered more than one price for quantity and violation of clause may not be waived under par. 2-405 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. as informality-----

48

**Interest on past due invoices**

Rejection of bid under solicitation issued for Federal Supply Schedule contract to furnish wood office furniture because of inclusion of qualifying provision "1½% interest per month on past due invoices," which contracting officer refused to delete, was proper under sec. 1-2.404-2(b) (5) of Federal Procurement Regs. Regulation provides for rejection of bid if bidder imposes conditions which would modify requirements of invitation, or limit his liability or rights of Govt. to his advantage, and although objectionable conditions may be deleted if they do not go to substance of bid—that is, that they only have trivial or negligible effect on price, quantity, quality, or delivery—condition imposed affected price and could not be deleted. Furthermore, contracting officer is without authority to obligate Govt. to pay interest on unpaid invoices. 5 Comp. Gen. 649, modified-----

733

**Technical proposals under two-step procurement**

Minor revision of unpriced technical proposal, first-step of two-step procurement or retrieval system that had initially been found unacceptable was not prejudicial to other bidders for Govt. under procedure contemplated by par. 2-508.1 is free to discuss submitted proposal with offeror if clarification or additional information will bring proposal to acceptable status since two-step procedure extends benefits of advertising to procurements previously negotiated, and while second-step of procedure is conducted in accordance with formal advertising, first-step contemplates maximizing competition. Therefore, low bidder originally incorrectly placed in unacceptable category, having submitted acceptable technical proposal and confirmed extremely low price bid may properly be awarded contract-----

866

CONTRACTS—Continued

Page

Specifications—Continued

Failure to furnish something required

Addenda acknowledgment

Legal relationship of parties altered

Amendment to invitation issued to implement Defense Procurement Cir. No. 74 entitled "Subcontractor Cost or Pricing Data and Audit Requirements," that recognized exemptions equivalent to those provided in so-called Truth in Negotiations Act, is material amendment, whether or not impact on price is demonstrable, or legal obligations imposed are new or being clarified, and failure to acknowledge amendment may not be waived as minor informality under ASPR 2-405, even though amendment was not received. Amendment altered legal relationship of parties, even though not necessarily varying actual work to be performed, by making submission of cost or pricing data, and price contractor's responsibility for defective subcontractor data mandatory instead of discretionary -----

11

Negotiated procurement

Acknowledgment of substantive amendment received after closing time for receipt of proposals under negotiated invitation for proposals issued pursuant to public exigency authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(2), and which provides for award on basis of initial proposals, may be accepted and proposal considered in view of fact negotiation procedures are more flexible than those used for advertised procurements. However, as late acceptance of addendum involves actions that constitute discussion within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and par. 3-805.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg., negotiations must be conducted with all offerors within competitive range to obtain "best and final" offers, for notwithstanding urgency of procurement, award may no longer be made on basis of initial proposals received.-----

202

Blanket offer to conform to specifications

Where technical data necessary for drafting of purchase description for electronic receivers was lacking, use of brand name or equal specification, listing 47 salient characteristics that had to be met by any "equal" product offered was not improper, nor did evaluation of equal product on basis of whether long list of features was met operate to make salient characteristics complete purchase description prescribed by sec. 1-1.307-2 of the Federal Procurement Regs. in absence of clear and accurate description of technical requirements. Therefore, invitation for bids not constituting satisfactory purchase description, low bid that complied with only six of stated 47 characteristics and contained statement that specifications would be met was properly rejected.-----

193

Data contained in literature that was not prepared to quote back salient features of brand name model but was published to disseminate information to public does not constitute sufficient descriptive literature for purpose of determining whether product equals brand name. Furthermore, offer to conform does not satisfy descriptive literature requirement of brand name or equal clause for detailed information, and submission of data after bid opening may not be considered under fundamental principle of competitive bidding system that responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid without reference to extraneous aids or explanation submitted after bid opening, in fairness to those bidders whose offers strictly complied with all solicitation requirements.-----

193

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued**

**Failure to furnish something required—Continued  
Information**

Omission of addresses of subcontractors listed by prime contractor in bid submission is minor informality that may be waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. when contracting agency can independently determine omitted addresses from readily available information—contractor register, telephone directories, agency records—as well as from personal knowledge. Since incompleteness of bid did not result in ambiguity that requires clarification by bidder, no possibility of bid shopping exists, nor is bid nonresponsive on basis bidder was given “two bites at the apple.” Extent to which contracting agency will extend its search for similarly named firms is discretionary matter; and if discretion is abused, protest could be filed with U.S. GAO.-----

295

**Minority manpower utilization**

When invitation for bids to rehabilitate and remodel apartment buildings requires bidders to complete appendix to invitation which is intended to implement Washington Plan that provides equal employment opportunity on Federal construction projects exceeding \$500,000, and which was issued pursuant to E.O. No. 11246, mere signing of appendix without submitting required specific percentage goals for minority manpower utilization renders low bid nonresponsive as completion of appendix is condition precedent to bid acceptance. Therefore, failure to furnish minority manpower goals is not minor informality that may be corrected or waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. and deficient bid is not eligible for award.-----

844

**Federal specifications**

**Deviation justification**

Award of contract for road grader to second low bidder offering qualified product grader with superior engine which was not listed on applicable Qualified Products List as required by appropriate Federal specification, and was modified by contracting agency, on basis superior engine that exceeded minimum needs of Govt. was essential for area in which it was to be used, violated sec. 1-1.1101 of Federal Procurement Regs. Although award should not have been made to nonresponsive bidder since delivery and payment have been made, corrective action is precluded. Notwithstanding sec. 1-1.305.1 requires use of Federal specifications, exceptions are permitted, and since Qualified Products List item is inadequate for road grader needed, agency may deviate from Federal specifications by complying with conditions in sec. 1-1.305-3.-----

691

**Minimum needs requirement**

**Administrative determination**

Request for proposals to operate Air Force facility overseas issued pursuant to authority in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (6) to negotiate contracts for services outside United States that failed to disclose predetermined minimum resource levels was defective and contributed to rejection of all but highest priced offer as technically unacceptable on basis that sufficient resources to perform were not demonstrated, and although contract awarded was contrary to “competitive negotiation” requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2304(g), because of essentiality of procurement, it will not be disturbed. However, although offeror’s judgment of resources needed to



**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued****Minimum needs requirement—Continued****Administrative determination—Continued**

perform is major factor in determining capacity to perform and may be considered in determining competitive range, agency must also meet its obligation by disclosing minimum needs to insure maximum competition -----

670

**Bid, etc., deficiencies****Clarification**

In procurement under request for proposals of ground simulator to be used to support training of navigators where proposal deficiencies were identified, clarified, Govt. work statement changed, and contractors allowed to determine manner of correction, since minimum requirements in several critical high cost areas established by oral clarification with one offeror were not reflected in any formal amendment, possibility that all offerors were not committed to same minimum requirements has been dispelled by independent examination made by National Bur. of Standards of technical proposals, examination conducted by Bureau as U.S. GAO was not equipped to evaluate undertakings represented in technical proposals submitted -----

788

**Cancellation and reinstatement of invitation**

Invitation for bids that states required man-year level of effort to perform engineering services for systems and program definition of combat systems maintenance training facility at erroneously fixed rather than estimated level, fails to show Govt.'s minimum needs and, therefore, successful contractor would be unable to produce results required in view of correlation between level of effort and ultimate work product. Failure to accurately reflect man-year level of effort required constitutes compelling reason for canceling invitation contemplated by par. 2-404.1(a) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and for readvertisement of procurement. However, cancellation emphasizes need for effective administrative definition and expression of Govt.'s requirements during procurement planning process -----

50

**Qualified products****Effect of specification revision**

Administrative determination that change in weight of webbing for parachutes to be procured from Qualified Products List (QPL) did not invalidate existing test data or require requalification of manufacturers already on QPL was proper where modification was not cause of rejecting sample parachutes submitted for qualification under invitation canceled and reissued; and fact that cause for failure of parachute samples to pass drop test cannot be determined does not impose duty on Govt. to pinpoint failure where unreasonable expenditure of time and money would be involved, nor may conditional qualification be approved on basis contractor is not relieved from complying with drawings and specifications -----

500

**Production line certification propriety**

Proposed "NASA Microelectronics Reliability Program" that would establish Qualified Products List for microcircuits and require production line certification of manufacturers prior to procurement although restrictive of competition is considered acceptable on basis of agency

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued****Qualified products—Continued****Production line certification propriety—Continued**

need since testing of microcircuits to determine extremely high level of quality and reliability assurance demanded by space program is either impossible or impractical and criticality of product justifies pre-qualification procedures. Therefore, restriction on competition resulting from program is not unreasonable or invalid restriction in conflict with 10 U.S.C. 2304(g) and 10 U.S.C. 2305 (a) and (b). However, as line certification is departure from normal procedures, right is reserved to give matter further consideration-----

542

**Requirement****Waiver**

Award of contract for road grader to second low bidder offering qualified product grader with superior engine which was not listed on applicable Qualified Products List as required by appropriate Federal specification, and was modified by contracting agency, on basis superior engine that exceeded minimum needs of Govt. was essential for area in which it was to be used, violated sec. 1-1.1101 of Federal Procurement Regs. Although award should not have been made to nonresponsive bidder since delivery and payment have been made, corrective action is precluded. Notwithstanding sec. 1-1.305.1 requires use of Federal specifications, exceptions are permitted, and since Qualified Products List item is inadequate for road grader needed, agency may deviate from Federal specifications by complying with conditions in sec. 1-1.305-3-----

691

**Restrictive****Bidders qualifications**

Invitation for installation of heavy equipment replacements that omitted Davis-Bacon Act on basis procurement did not contemplate construction, alteration, or repair of public building, and incorporated provisions of Walsh-Healey Act, which requires contractor to be manufacturer of or regular dealer in equipment to be supplied, and provision for bidders to attest to their experience and competency should be canceled and re-issued by contracting agency under guidelines in sec. 1-12.402-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for determining whether substantial amounts of construction, alteration, or repair work would be involved, also taking into consideration fact that no bidder qualified as manufacturer or dealer to be eligible for award, and that solicitation in requiring experience and competency attestation was unduly restrictive of competition--

807

**Particular make****Description availability**

Since "Brand Name or Equal" clause permits purchasing activity to consider other information reasonably available to it in determining whether "or equal" product is equal to brand name item, and nothing in clause precludes bidder from making descriptive data in existence prior to bid opening—such as published catalog—available to procuring activity after bid opening—use of preexisting data to secure details of product offered by bidder obliged to furnish model indicated in his bid does not create objectionable situation where bidder could make non-responsive bid responsive after bid opening. However, procuring agency

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Specifications—Continued**

**Restrictive—Continued**

**Particular make—Continued**

**Description availability—Continued**

has no obligation to go to bidder after bid opening, or to make any unreasonable effort to obtain descriptive data. Contrary dictum in B-158601, May 2, 1966, and other similar cases, is not rule----- 137

Data contained in literature that was not prepared to quote back salient features of brand name model but was published to disseminate information to public does not constitute sufficient descriptive literature for purpose of determining whether product equals brand name. Furthermore, offer to conform does not satisfy descriptive literature requirement of brand name or equal clause for detailed information, and submission of data after bid opening may not be considered under fundamental principle of competitive bidding system that responsiveness of bid must be determined from bid without reference to extraneous aids or explanation submitted after bid opening, in fairness to those bidders whose offers strictly complied with all solicitation requirements----- 193

**Design v. performance criteria**

When purpose of first article provision in brand name or equal invitation is to assure that product offered will perform in accordance with salient characteristics stated and not to reveal defects which could be corrected by conveying general design information as to how conforming product could be constructed, whether bidder proposes to manufacture a model which would attain performance characteristics of brand name product is for determination by evaluating information submitted with an offer in accordance with brand name or equal clause and not for determination during first article testing----- 193

**"Or equal" not solicited**

Solicitation of proposals on brand name basis without "or equal" provision in accordance with par. 1-1206.1(b) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. under negotiation authority contained in 10 U.S.C. 2304(a) (7), and pursuant to "Determination and Findings" that sole source procurement of sterilizers to be purchased is justified, is restrictive of competition unless no other item will meet Govt.'s minimum requirements or no other but sole source manufacturer can produce acceptable sterilizer. Therefore, as there is nothing particularly unique about design or manufacture of brand name sterilizer, fact that it has proven satisfactory in use does not justify sole source procurement. Although justification for procurement is final determination, sole source solicitation stated in request for proposals should be eliminated----- 209

**Salient characteristics**

Low bidder who after bid opening objected to use of brand name or equal invitation which listed 47 salient characteristics that did not include technical data for electronic receivers to be purchased, on basis unlisted data could have been quickly summarized and purchase description prepared that would meet requirements of sec. 1-1.307-2 of Federal Procurement Regs. for clear and accurate description of technical requirements, should have lodged his complaint before bids were opened. Invitation for bids clearly stated salient characteristics and other criteria on which bids were to be evaluated, and bidder having partici-

<b>CONTRACTS—Continued</b>	
<b>Specifications—Continued</b>	
<b>Restrictive—Continued</b>	
<b>Particular make—Continued</b>	
<b>Salient characteristics—Continued</b>	
pated in brand name or equal procurement to point of bid opening is deemed to have acquiesced in evaluation criteria set out in invitation---	193
<b>Use limited to unavailability of adequate specifications</b>	
Where technical data necessary for drafting of purchase description for electronic receivers was lacking, use of brand name or equal specification, listing 47 salient characteristics that had to be met by any "equal" product offered was not improper, nor did evaluation of equal product on basis of whether long list of features was met operate to make salient characteristics complete purchase description prescribed by sec. 1-1.307-2 of the Federal Procurement Regs. in absence of clear and accurate description of technical requirements. Therefore, invitation for bids not constituting satisfactory purchase description, low bid that complied with only six of stated 47 characteristics and contained statement that specifications would be met was properly rejected-----	193
<b>Samples</b>	
<b>Preproduction sample requirement</b>	
<b>Brand name or equal items</b>	
When purpose of first article provision in brand name or equal invitation is to assure that product offered will perform in accordance with salient characteristics stated and not to reveal defects which could be corrected by conveying general design information as to how conforming product could be constructed, whether bidder proposes to manufacture a model which would attain performance characteristics of brand name product is for determination by evaluating information submitted with an offer in accordance with brand name or equal clause and not for determination during first article testing-----	193
<b>Unavailability</b>	
<b>Brand name or equal. (See Contracts, specifications, restrictive, particular make)</b>	
<b>Status</b>	
<b>Federal grants-in-aid</b>	
Amounts due or to become due under grants of Federal funds to medical college for construction and restoration of facilities authorized by Public Health Service Act, as amended, may be assigned to bank pursuant to Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, to enable grantee to obtain interim financing for purpose of making progress payments to contractor, as acceptance of grant subject to conditions imposed by Govt. created valid contract within meaning of 1940 act, and as assignment is not forbidden under grant. However, in accordance with requirements of act, assignment should cover amount payable under grants without regard to status of account between college and bank; and, furthermore, grantee is not foreclosed from financing non-Federal share of costs with borrowed funds-----	470

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Subcontractors**

**Data pricing, etc.**

**Requirement**

Amendment to invitation issued to implement Defense Procurement Cir. No. 74 entitled "Subcontractor Cost or Pricing Data and Audit Requirements," that recognized exemptions equivalent to those provided in so-called Truth in Negotiations Act, is material amendment, whether or not impact on price is demonstrable, or legal obligations imposed are new or being clarified, and failure to acknowledge amendment may not be waived as minor informality under ASPR 2-405, even though amendment was not received. Amendment altered legal relationship of parties, even though not necessarily varying actual work to be performed, by making submission of cost or pricing data, and prime contractor's responsibility for defective subcontractor data mandatory instead of discretionary -----

11

**Subcontracts**

**Bid shopping**

**Definiteness of subcontractor listing requirements**

Although to be responsible, bidder must comply with subcontractor listing requirements of invitation for bids as this information is necessary in order for contracting agency to control bid shopping, it is erroneous to require bidders to comply with requirement for specification classification that is not set out as category in subcontractor listing form attached to invitation, for if requirement was material, procuring officials should have indicated in explicit terms sections of specifications that were subject to bid shopping. Therefore, lowest bidder under invitation to construct Federal Building and Post Office who complied with subcontractor listing requirements for all categories indicated is responsive bidder even though all subcontractor addresses were not furnished and one name was misspelled as this is information obtainable without further bidder contact-----

839

**Listing of subcontractors**

Omission of addresses of subcontractors listed by prime contractor in bid submission is minor informality that may be waived under sec. 1-2.405 of Federal Procurement Regs. when contracting agency can independently determine omitted addresses from readily available information—contractor register, telephone directories, agency records—as well as from personal knowledge. Since incompleteness of bid did not result in ambiguity that requires clarification by bidder, no possibility of bid shopping exists, nor is bid nonresponsive on basis bidder was given "two bites at the apple." Extent to which contracting agency will extend its search for similarly named firms is discretionary matter; and if discretion is abused, protest could be filed with U.S. GAO-----

295

**Types**

**Cost-plus-incentive-fee contract**

In negotiation under 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(11) of cost-plus-incentive-fee research and development contract for radar sets where contracting agency left choice of one of three power tubes to be used to offerors, selection of other than low offeror on basis of change in tube preferred and acceptance of price reduction, although selected offeror was not "successful offeror" contemplated by par. 3-506(b) of ASPR, and business

**CONTRACTS—Continued**

Page

**Types—Continued****Cost-plus-incentive-fee contract—Continued**

clearance required by ASPR 1-403 had not been satisfied, without giving all offerors within competitive range opportunity to compete on basis of its preference was inconsistent with concept of competitive negotiation, as time for negotiating price and technical aspects is during source selection competitive phase of negotiating process and, therefore, negotiations should be reopened to afford all offerors opportunity to revise their technical and price proposals-----

739

**Unprofitable****Relief**

Request for relief under sec. 17 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. authorizing extraordinary contractual actions to facilitate national defense made after contract completion and final payment on basis bid underpricing was due to unforeseen production difficulties and misleading vendor quotes is for denial where occurrence of mistake "so obvious it was or should have been apparent" is not demonstrated, and record establishes price bid was adequately verified and was intended, and only subsequent events resulted in unprofitable contract. Even assuming existence of bona fide mistake, fact that price bid greatly exceeded Govt.'s estimate intended as funding allocation, or that prior procurements for lesser quantities were priced much higher than group of bids in price range of successful bid did not place contracting officer on actual or constructive notice of error.-----

89

**Voidable****Void distinguished**

Although first preference labor surplus certificate of eligibility furnished by small business concern was invalid as bidder had no plant in labor surplus area at time certificate was issued, plant being acquired month after award of set-aside portion of procurement for detecting sets to concern on basis of labor surplus preference, award need not be canceled as it is voidable at Govt.'s option rather than void *ab initio*, since it was made in good faith as contracting officer was required to accept certificate in absence of pre-award protest or evidence of error on face of certificate, which prospectively located plant in surplus labor area, and also contracting officer properly waived omission of plant's address in surplus labor area as minor deviation.-----

559

**"Washington Plan"**

Labor stipulations. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, nondiscrimination, "affirmative action programs")

**COURTS****Costs****Government liability****Indigent persons****Appropriation chargeable**

Psychiatric examination of criminal defendant to determine his mental competency to understand proceedings against him or assist in his own defense authorized by subsec. (e) of Criminal Justice Act of 1964, 18 U.S.C. 3006 A (e), providing for investigative, expert, or other services necessary to adequate defense to 18 U.S.C. 4244, and subpoena of witnesses at no cost to defendant authorized under Rule 17(b) of Federal

COURTS—Continued

Page

Costs—Continued

Government liability—Continued

Indigent persons—Continued

Appropriation chargeable—Continued

Rules of Criminal Procedure when defendant is financially unable to pay fees of witness whose presence is necessary to adequate defense are distinct services for payment purposes. Services pursuant to 1964 act are payable by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts and those rendered in accordance with Rule 17(b) are payable by Dept. of Justice....

128

Cost of psychiatric examination of indigent criminal defendant for purpose of establishing insanity at time offense is committed is payable from funds appropriated for implementation of Criminal Justice Act of 1964 by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts, and cost of examination to determine defendant's mental competency to stand trial for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 4244 is expense to be borne by Dept. of Justice in accordance with guidelines issued by Judicial Conference of U.S. in recognition of distinction between two purposes served by psychiatric examination. Where examination serves dual purpose, cost to determine competency to stand trial should be borne by Justice and additional expense to determine insanity at time of offense to Criminal Justice Act appropriation.....

128

Court of Claims

Decisions

Acceptance

Application limited

Conclusion that exemption provision in Dual Compensation Act (5 U.S.C. 5532(c)) to requirement that retired pay of Regular officer must be reduced when employed as civilian by Federal Govt. (5 U.S.C. 5532(b)) applies only if retirement was direct result of armed conflict, or was caused by instrumentality of war in wartime, is justified on basis of legislative history of provision and its longstanding administrative interpretation; and, therefore, *Mross v. United States*, 186 Ct. Cl. 165, holding that disability—perforated eardrum—that was war-incurred but was not disabling and did not constitute significant factor in officer's retirement met requirements of exception to dual compensation restriction will not be followed as case is based on particular facts involved....

480

Criminal Justice Act of 1964

Attorney fees

Appropriation chargeable

Accounting procedure employed by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts with respect to paying court-appointed attorneys under provisions of Criminal Justice Act of 1964 from appropriation current at time of appointment regardless of date voucher, subject to court review, is submitted, may not be revised to make payment from appropriation current at time voucher is approved in order to eliminate holding obligated appropriation account open beyond close of normal fiscal year. Contractual obligation for payment of attorney occurs at time he is appointed, even though exact amount of obligation remains to be determined; and pursuant to secs. 3732 and 3679, R. S., and 41 U.S.C. 11, 31 *id.* 665(a), *id.* 712a, fee payable is chargeable to appropriation for fiscal year in which obligation was incurred.....

580

## COURTS—Continued

Page

## Criminal Justice Act of 1964—Continued

## Expense limitation

Where expert services authorized by subsec. (e) of Criminal Justice Act of 1964 are requested by indigent defendant's counsel, and expenses incurred exceed \$300 maximum allowable under act, Dept. of Justice is not obligated under Rule 17(b) of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to pay all or part of expenses. Proper approach to limitation imposed by act is not to disregard limitation but to amend subsec. (e) of 1964 act -----

128

## Psychiatric examination

Fee payable to psychiatrist appointed on indigent defendant's motion to conduct mental examination for testifying at trial is payable by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts from appropriations made to implement Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as psychiatrist testified as expert witness and not as lay witness whose fees are prescribed by Rule 17(b) of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Purpose of 1964 act is to assure adequate representation in Federal courts of accused persons with insufficient means, and end product of adequate defense is not infrequently representation at trial, and that is so for consulted expert as well as for counsel -----

128

## Decisions

*Mross v. United States*, 186 Ct. Cl. 165. (See Compensation, double, exemptions, Dual Compensation Act, disability "as a direct result of armed conflict," etc.)

## District of Columbia

## Court of General Sessions

## Transcripts

Cost of transcript in civil matter for indigent litigant at Govt. expense ordered by Dist. of Columbia Court of General Sessions in connection with appeal may not be paid by Federal Govt. on basis U.S. Court of Appeals for Dist. of Columbia Circuit held in *Lee v. Habib* that U.S. must pay for transcripts that are needed to resolve substantive question when indigent litigant is allowed to appeal in *forma pauperis* to Appeals Court. *Lee* case holding that 11 D.C. Code 935 makes 28 U.S.C. 753(f) applicable to Court of General Sessions does not enlarge authority to furnish transcripts at Federal expense to include civil litigation of private parties, as both *Lee* case and cited *Tate* case involved criminal actions brought by U.S. in U.S. Branch of Court of General Sessions, whereas in civil cases Court functions as local or municipal court-----

205

## Probational proceedings

## Psychiatric examinations

Where probationer charged with violation of probation conditions moves for psychiatric examination, examination fee is payable by Dept. of Justice when psychiatric services involve 18 U.S.C. 4244 proceeding to determine defendant's mental competency for purpose of continuing hearing for revocation of probation-----

128

## Right to legal representation

In view of *Mempa v. Rhay*, 389 U.S. 128 (1967), involving right to counsel in probation revocation coupled with deferred sentencing proceeding, 45 Comp. Gen. 780 (1966) need no longer be considered controlling in connection with proceedings involving deferred sentencing,



**COURTS—Continued**

Page

**Probational proceedings—Continued**

**Right to legal representation—Continued**

whether or not such proceedings are coupled with revocation of probation, but decision remains in effect insofar as simple revocation of probation proceedings are concerned. Whether cost of psychiatric examination is for payment under Criminal Justice Act or under 18 U.S.C. 4244, depends on purpose of examination; that is, whether it is intended to establish insanity of defendant at time of offense or serves as tool for his defense-----

128

**CREDIT UNIONS**

Federal. (*See* Federal Credit Unions)

**DAMAGES**

**Property**

Public. (*See* Property, public, damage, loss, etc.)

**DEBT COLLECTIONS**

**Waiver**

**Civilian employees**

**Compensation overpayments**

**Aliens**

Authority in 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive erroneous payments of compensation made to employees of executive agencies is applicable to non-U.S. citizens employed by U.S. in foreign areas, as term "employee" as used in sec. 5584 means employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 2105; that is, individual appointed in "civil service," which constitutes all appointive positions in executive, judicial, and legislative branches of Govt., except positions in uniformed services (5 U.S.C. 2101(1)). Therefore, Philippine citizen, properly appointed to position in executive branch to perform Federal function supervised by Federal employee, is employee under 5 U.S.C. 5584 and entitled to waiver of erroneous compensation payments without regard to fact employment is under labor agreement with Philippine Govt -----

329

**Severance pay**

Erroneous payments of severance pay made under 5 U.S.C. 5595 to retired members of uniformed services, who employed as civilians by U.S. were reduced in force, may be waived under provisions of act of Oct. 21, 1968, Pub. L. 90-616-----

46

**DEFENSE DEPARTMENT**

**Teachers employed in areas overseas**

**Leaves of absence**

When teachers in Dept. of Defense Overseas Dependents' Schools are absent from duty without authorization, pay deduction for scheduled workdays only would be in accord with Pub. L. 86-91, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 901-907, enacted to eliminate many difficulties resulting from application of civil service laws and regulations to overseas teachers whose conditions of employment are significantly different from those of full-time civil service employees. Therefore, Secretary of Defense having broad authority under sec. 4 of act (20 U.S.C. 902) to regulate entitlement of teachers to compensation and payment of such compensation, current regulations may be amended to eliminate requirement for deduction of salary for all days from time teacher is absent without proper authorization until return to duty-----

191

**DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS**

Page

**Administrative determinations. (See Administrative Determinations)****Arbitration. (See Arbitration)****Management****General Accounting Office recommendation compliance**

When decision of Comptroller General contains instructions for corrective action in regard to departmental policy, Secretary concerned is required under sec. 236 of Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, 84 Stat. 1140, 1171, to submit written statements as to action taken not later than 60 days after date of decision to Committees of Govt. Operations of both houses and to Committees on Appropriations in connection with request for appropriations made more than 60 days after date of decision, action that Dept. of Interior is required to take incident to recommendation that Bur. of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife correct its Realty Manual to reflect proper application of Statute of Limitation in Pub. L. 85-433 regarding submission of expenses incurred in moving from lands acquired by U.S.-----

822

**Status****Howard University**

Employee who by reason of transfer from Freedmen's Hospital to jurisdiction of Howard University under Pub. L. 87-262 is entitled to credit for retirement purposes for continuous employment with University, upon reemployment with Federal or District of Columbia Govt. may not have service creditable for retirement credited as service toward annual leave accrual provided in 5 U.S.C. 6303(a), as University is not Govt. instrumentality and, therefore, service with University is not considered Federal civilian service. Since former Freedmen's Hospital employees received lump-sum leave payment upon transfer to Hospital, indicating separation, and Pub. L. 87-262 makes no provision for crediting service for leave accrual purposes, continuous service with Howard may not be considered as not having had break in service.-----

820

**DETAILS****Military personnel****Distinction between detail and assignment**

Legislative history of Pub. L. 90-179, which authorized detailing two officers—a Navy officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(b)) and a Marine officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(c))—as Assistant Judge Advocates General of Navy entitled to rank and grade of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general while so serving, unless entitled to higher rank or grade under another provision of law, evidencing no intent that captain or officer of lesser rank receive pay of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general, as appropriate, the two Navy captains not detailed but assigned as Assistant Judge Advocates General to avoid creating entitlement to flag rank within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 5149(b), having been denied grade of rear admiral (lower half) and its benefits, may not be paid under 37 U.S.C. 202(1) at that grade.-----

22

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Page

Contracts

Personal service contracts

Contracts with District of Columbia Urban Corps, part of D.C. Govt., and similar Urban Corps and other organizations, including profit-making organizations, in other localities may not be entered into by Federal agencies for purpose of recruiting students and dealing with educational institutions because type of services contemplated can be performed more economically and feasibly by their own personnel. Even if contract arrangement were permitted with D.C. Urban Corps, "override" payable would constitute reimbursement to D.C. Govt. that is barred by sec. 601 of Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 686) ; moreover, any payment received would be for deposit into Treasury of U.S. to avoid augmentation of D.C. appropriation used to fund Corps-----

553

Courts. (See Courts, District of Columbia)

Employees

Wage board

Environmental pay differential status

Environmental pay differential for dirty work having been authorized for Dist. of Columbia wage employees by proper wage fixing authority in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5341, and in conformity with commercial practices, differential may be considered basic pay, whether stated separately or included in scheduled rates, for purposes of computing wage board overtime and Sunday rates prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5544, the Civil Service Retirement Deductions authorized in 5 U.S.C. 8334, and for determining annual rate of pay for group life insurance provided in Federal Personnel Manual, Supp. 870-1, Subch. 83-3a, and differential may be paid to employees while in leave status-----

66

Federal City College

Investments

Since Federal City College is land grant college within purview of "First Morrill Act" as provided by Dist. of Columbia Education Act, land grant funds available to college are exempted from 47 D.C. Code 135, which directs investment in U.S. Treasury securities, and Congress in education act approved investment in accordance with land grant act in "bonds of the United States or of the States or some other safe bonds." "Other safe bonds" are obligations of various Federal agencies, other than Treasury securities, that are guaranteed by U.S., industrial bonds approved for investment by fiduciaries under Rules of U.S. Dist. Court, and certificates of deposit in federally insured banks, but not savings accounts in banks or savings and loan associations. Furthermore, deficiencies from investments may be made up from appropriations, and to minimize losses, bonds may be sold before maturity-----

712

Highways, streets, etc.

Participation in Federal-aid highway programs

Authority in Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1950, 23 U.S.C. 120(g), to pay 100 percent of cost of highways located within national parks and monuments under jurisdiction of National Park Service (NPS) does not permit financing of entire cost attendant to construction of Theodore Roosevelt Bridge over Potomac River and Little River Crossing as these areas although within NPS jurisdiction are not part of national park system for purposes of 23 U.S.C. 120(g), which authorizes Sec. of Trans-

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Continued**

Page

**Highways, streets, etc.—Continued****Participation in Federal-aid highway programs—Continued**

portation to construct roads through national parks and monuments and relates only incidentally to administration and protection of parks and monuments as contemplated by act of Aug. 8, 1953, as amended. Therefore, 90-10 Interstate project agreement with Dist. of Columbia may not be amended, nor may 100 percent participation funds be made available to construct other bridges over lands mentioned in act of June 4, 1934.---

794

**Leases, concessions, rental agreements, etc.****Prior appropriation necessity**

Cost of catering services furnished by hotel located in Dist. of Columbia to conference held pursuant to Govt. Employees Training Act, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41, and considered proper administrative expense when necessary to achieve objectives of training program, may be paid, prohibition in 40 U.S.C. 34 regarding procurement of hotel room accommodations in Dist. of Columbia in absence of express appropriation for rental of space for Govt. use in District having no application, even though cost of using hotel facilities are included in catering charges, as cost of space is merely cost item included by hotel in fixing catering charges and rental of space *per se* is not involved.-----

610

**DOCUMENTS****Incorporation by reference****Authorization act in appropriation act**

Notwithstanding sec. 101 of Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 authorized appropriation of funds without fiscal year limitation for purpose of adjusting effective interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, Congress having in sec. 509 of Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1971, which provided funds to implement enabling act, restricted availability of funds appropriated by act to current fiscal year unless otherwise expressly provided, "no-year" provision in authorization act is not incorporated in appropriation act so as to meet requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718, and, therefore, funds appropriated for interest adjustment payments by Federal home loan banks are not available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971.-----

857

**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM****Enrollees****Training****District of Columbia government****Status for leave purposes**

Enrollees in a work-training program conducted by District of Columbia government under Title 1, Part B, of Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, who are given appointments as employees of District government and, therefore, are covered by Annual and Sick Leave Act of 1951, upon transfer to Federal positions may have unused annual and sick leave balances accumulated and accrued as District employees transferred to their Federal positions, and their service with District used to establish annual-leave-earning categories, for although officers and employees of District of Columbia government are not Federal employees, they are specifically included in Annual and Sick Leave provisions of 5 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*-----

98

**EDUCATION**

Page

Colleges, schools, etc. (See Colleges, schools, etc.)

**Scholarships**

Reserve Officers' Training Corps program. (See Military Personnel,  
Reserve Officers' Training Corps, scholarship benefits)

**Teachers overseas**

Defense Department teachers. (See Defense Department, teachers employed in areas overseas)

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Contract provision. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, nondiscrimination)

**EQUIPMENT**

**Automatic Data Processing Systems**

**Computer service**

**Evaluation propriety**

Point system evaluation of proposals for computer time and services under which number of points to be awarded for basic costs is to be determined from offeror's "pricing out," or cost for requirements stated in sample problem included in solicitation that is not considered indicative of cost differences between suppliers for every proposed computer application contemplated under contract, but, rather, typical of work to be performed, is proper method of evaluation, notwithstanding amount of memory or core size was not frozen in sample, as factors frozen are of greater significance as to price than variations in core size of sample...

222

Under request for proposals for Fleet Computer Programming Services, which was modified to remove as evaluation factor cost of failing to award contract to current contractor and possible organizational conflict of interest because one of offerors was performing as subcontractor on program to be analyzed by new contractor, and to revise the program's manhours, continuation of negotiations during which prices were disclosed does not constitute prohibited auction technique as no competitive advantage resulted to any offeror and technique *per se* is not inherently illegal. Substantial changes in requirements and in computer industry justified amendments to solicitation issued pursuant to par. 3-805.1(e) of Armed Services Procurement Reg. and continuation of negotiations, therefore, last prices submitted may be opened and considered.....

619

**ESTOPPEL**

**Against Government**

**Rule**

Approval by contracting agency of press proof of artwork for plastic litter bags submitted by contractor in accordance with specification requirements, notwithstanding word "Boundary" was misspelled as "Boundry," estops agency from denying payment to contractor on basis bags were defective within contemplation of par. 5(d) of Standard Form 32; and, therefore, Govt.'s acceptance was not conclusive, since inspection and approval of press proofs of artwork was separate from inspection and acceptance intended under par. 5(d) concerned with latent defect that cannot be discovered by inspection. Whether or not offer of contractor to furnish labels with word "Boundary" correctly spelled for attachment to bags is accepted does not affect agency's obligation for contract price.....

534

**EVIDENCE****Sufficiency****Page****Burden of proof**

Milk indemnity payments authorized by Pub. L. 90-484 to be made to dairy farmers who are directed to remove milk from commercial markets because milk contained residues of chemicals registered and approved for use by Federal Govt., may not be allowed pursuant to Pub. L. 91-127 when milk is removed as result of farmer's willful failure to follow procedure prescribed by Govt. Where dairy farmer predicates milk indemnity claim on compliance with procedures for use of DDT pesticides on cotton fields sprayed from airplanes, it is not sufficient that it cannot be proved farmer was at fault; but rather to receive indemnity payments for contaminated milk, burden is on farmer to establish that he was not at fault.-----

**305****FAMILY ALLOWANCES****Separation****Type 2****Ship duty****Ashore effect**

Navy members who travel during 48 hours of liberty, 72 hours if holiday is involved, from place of ship overhaul to home port of ship to visit dependents and return at Govt. expense pursuant to Pub. L. 91-210, do not forfeit entitlement to \$30 per month Family Separation Allowance, type II, authorized in 37 U.S.C. 427(b) for members separated from their dependents while on board ship for continuous period of more than 30 days. The legislative history of Pub. L. 91-210, enacted as beneficial legislation to permit members to travel at Govt. expense from place of vessel overhaul to home port to visit dependents, evidences no intent to deprive member of other benefits by reason of short visit with dependents on usual type of Navy liberty.-----

**334****FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS****Property lost or damaged****Disposition of moneys received in settlement**

Moneys received from carriers by National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) in settlement for goods lost or damaged in transit that were shipped in connection with operations of Administration should be deposited for credit to account of Administration and not general fund of Treasury since miscellaneous receipts rule (31 U.S.C. 484) is not for application, as operating funds of NCUA are not provided by annual appropriations but by fees and assessments upon credit unions pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1755, which provides for deposit of collections from credit unions with Treasurer of U.S. for credit to account of Administration.---

**545****FEES****Meetings. (See Meetings, attendance, etc., fees)****Witnesses****Payment****Appropriation chargeable**

Psychiatric examination of criminal defendant to determine his mental competency to understand proceedings against him or assist in his own defense authorized by subsec. (e) of Criminal Justice Act of 1964, 18 U.S.C. 3006 A(e), providing for investigative, expert, or other services necessary to adequate defense to 18 U.S.C. 4244, and subpoena of

**FEES—Continued**

Page

**Witnesses—Continued**

**Payment—Continued**

**Appropriation chargeable—Continued**

witnesses at no cost to defendant authorized under Rule 17 (b) of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure when defendant is financially unable to pay fees of witness whose presence is necessary to adequate defense are distinct services for payment purposes. Services pursuant to 1964 act are payable by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts and those rendered in accordance with Rule 17 (b) are payable by Dept. of Justice-----

128

Fee payable to psychiatrist appointed on indigent defendant's motion to conduct mental examination for testifying at trial is payable by Administrative Office of U.S. Courts from appropriations made to implement Criminal Justice Act of 1964, as psychiatrist testified as expert witness and not as lay witness whose fees are prescribed by Rule 17 (b) of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Purpose of 1964 act is to assure adequate representation in Federal courts of accused persons with insufficient means, and end product of adequate defense is not infrequently representation at trial, and that is so for consulted expert as well as for counsel -----

128

**FREEDMEN'S HOSPITAL**

**Transferred to Howard University**

**Employees**

**Leave status**

Employee who by reason of transfer from Freedmen's Hospital to jurisdiction of Howard University under Pub. L. 87-262 is entitled to credit for retirement purposes for continuous employment with University, upon reemployment with Federal or District of Columbia Govt. may not have service creditable for retirement credited as service toward annual leave accrual provided in 5 U.S.C. 6303(a), as University is not Govt. instrumentality and, therefore, service with University is not considered Federal civilian service. Since former Freedmen's Hospital employees received lump-sum leave payment upon transfer to Hospital, indicating separation, and Pub. L. 87-262 makes no provision for crediting service for leave accrual purposes, continuous service with Howard may not be considered as not having had break in service -----

820

**FUNDS**

**Appropriated. (See Appropriations)**

**Federal grants, etc., to other than States**

**Contract status**

Amounts due or to become due under grants of Federal funds to medical college for construction and restoration of facilities authorized by Public Health Service Act, as amended, may be assigned to bank pursuant to Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, to enable grantee to obtain interim financing for purpose of making progress payments to contractor, as acceptance of grant subject to conditions imposed by Govt. created valid contract within meaning of 1940 act, and as assignment is not forbidden under grant. However, in accordance with requirements of act, assignment should cover amount payable under grants without regard to status of account between college and bank; and, furthermore, grantee is not foreclosed from financing non-Federal share of costs with borrowed funds-----

470

**FUNDS—Continued****Federal grants, etc., to other than States—Continued**

Page

**"Federal share"****What constitutes**

Limitation in Economic Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 2754(b)) requiring that work-study grant agreements with institutions of higher education provide that "Federal share" of compensation of students employed in College Work-Study Program will not exceed 80 percentum of compensation paid to students, pertaining only to payments from grants made by Office of Education to institutions and not to payments made by other Federal agencies where students are employed, employing agencies may bear larger portion than 20 percent of student earnings so that grant funds may be spread over greater number of students. Whether agency should pay social security tax on its contribution to student's salary, and if so in what amount, is for determination by Commissioner of Internal Revenue Service.....

553

**Miscellaneous receipts. (See Miscellaneous Receipts)****Nonappropriated****Civilian employee activities****Transportation request use**

Use of reduced Category Z fares offered by commercial airlines to U.S. under Govt. Transportation Requests (GTRs) pursuant to tariffs filed with Civil Aeronautics Board is limited by agreement to transportation payable from public funds for official travel only, and special fares may not be made available to contractor employees or nonappropriated fund agencies in Europe or elsewhere, whether payment is made from nonappropriated funds, or appropriated funds on reimbursable basis. Restrictions on use of GTRs prescribed in GAO Policy and Procedures Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, Title 5, secs. 2020.10 and 2020.80 maintain integrity of travel appropriation obligations, and GTRs serve to identify that travel performed was on official business in accord with special arrangements for reduced fares and, therefore, Army regulations in conflict with purpose of Category Z fares should be amended.....

748

**Revolving****Funds in the nature of a revolving fund**

Special deposit accounts established under 40 U.S.C. 174k(b) and 174j-4, with Treasurer of U.S. by Architect of Capitol as manager of House and Senate restaurants, constitute permanent indefinite appropriations for use similar to revolving fund in view of fact the funds otherwise would be for deposit as miscellaneous receipts; and funds do not lose their identity as appropriated funds, because funds appropriated for contingent expenses of House and Senate are deposited and disbursed from accounts. Therefore, since restaurant employees are paid from funds considered appropriated funds, restrictions in Pub. L. 91-144, against payment of compensation from appropriated funds to other than U.S. citizens, prohibits employment of aliens by restaurants. Overrules B-43917, Aug. 30, 1944, relative to special deposit accounts; but pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5533, restaurant employees are now exempt from dual compensation prohibition.....

323



**FUNDS—Continued**

Page

**Trust**

**Financing building construction for Government use**

Assignment of moneys to become due from U.S. under lease agreement may be made to Public Employees' Retirement System and State Teachers' Retirement System of State of California using trust funds to furnish permanent financing for building being constructed for Govt. The Systems qualify as "financing institutions" within purview of Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 203, as nothing in act indicates exclusion of pension funds, and primary function of trust corpus, together with trustees, is investing of assets of trust. However, act limits assignment to one party, "except that any such assignment may be made to one party as agent or trustee for two or more parties participating in such financing"-----

613

**GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE**

**Decisions**

**"Dictum"**

To categorize views of U.S. GAO concerning areas in agency's procurement practices brought to light by protest where revisions are desirable as "dictum"—abbreviation of *obiter dictum* which means remark or opinion uttered by the way—appears futile when it is obvious that any administrative actions taken that are contrary to such stated positions may result in disallowance of credit in disbursing officer's account. -----

59

**Finality**

**Effect of procedural or remedial statutes**

The new sec. 39 U.S.C. 2601(b), which places responsibility to relieve, compromise, or otherwise settle relief cases concerning Postal matters in Postal Service and removes U.S. GAO from process does not have effect of setting aside decisions already made by GAO on relief matters under 31 U.S.C. 82a-1 or 39 U.S.C. 2401. Although procedural or remedial statutes such as 39 U.S.C. 2601(b) are not subject to general rule against retroactive application and they apply to all accrued, pending, and future actions, steps already taken, pleadings, and all things done under old law stand, unless contrary intent is manifested. Since change is procedural law does not operate retroactively, new authority of 39 U.S.C. 2601(b) does not extend to affect, change, or modify actions taken by GAO on postal relief matters prior to effective date of section...-----

731

**Jurisdiction**

**Antitrust matters**

The jurisdiction to enforce antitrust statutes lies with Dept. of Justice and U.S. General Accounting Office is without authority to issue determination respecting applicability or violation of statutes. However, under 15 U.S.C. 17, labor organizations engaged in lawful pursuits are exempted from restrictions of antitrust statutes.-----

648

**Claims**

**Finality of determination**

Since under Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended, Govt. is not insurer as to fraudulent schemes devised by assignor against assignee, nor is Govt. required to involve assignee in matters of contract administration, claim for amount of fictitious invoices presented by assignee of drayage company performing services for Govt., which were

**GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE—Continued**

Page

**Jurisdiction—Continued****Claims—Continued****Finality of determination—Continued**

retrieved by assignor prior to payment, may not be honored as record presents no grounds to impute negligence to or assert estoppel against Govt., but instead raises doubt as to validity of assignee's claim. Although claim must be rejected, as jurisdiction of GAO to pay claims is based upon legal liability of U.S., assignee's right to seek judicial determination of its claim is not prejudiced-----

484

**Recommendations****Implementation**

When decision of Comptroller General contains instructions for corrective action in regard to departmental policy, Secretary concerned is required under sec. 236 of Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, 84 Stat. 1140, 1171, to submit written statements as to action taken not later than 60 days after date of decision to Committees of Govt. Operations of both houses and to Committees on Appropriations in connection with request for appropriations made more than 60 days after date of decision, action that Dept. of Interior is required to take incident to recommendation that Bur. of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife correct its Realty Manual to reflect proper application of Statute of Limitation in Pub. L. 85-433 regarding submission of expenses incurred in moving from lands acquired by U.S.-----

822

**Settlements****Evidence**

Claim submitted for consideration under settlement authority in 31 U.S.C. 71 for additional compensation to cover required correction in printing of technical publication, which had been disallowed by contracting officer and appeal to disallowance denied by administrative officer, may not be paid on basis prior uncorrected orders had been accepted, where record shows contractor agreed to correct error without cost to Govt., and supplemental agreement providing charge for work—insertion of fold-ins in publication in indicated sequence—has reference to future orders. Furthermore, alleged subsequent oral agreement may not be considered, as review is restricted to record before contracting agency at time the head of agency rendered decision.-----

369

**GRANTS**

To other than States. (See Funds, Federal grants, etc., to other than States)

To States. (See States, Federal aid, grants, etc.)

**GRATUITIES****Reenlistment bonus****Extension of enlistment****More than one****Effective date of aggregate extension**

Upon reextending reenlistment for 1 year 4 months, effective July 2, 1971, member of uniformed services who at time he first extended enlistment for 10 months, effective Mar. 2, 1970, was not entitled to bonus, is subject to sec. 2(a) of E.O. No. 11525, which prohibits increase in payment of reenlistment bonus to member whose entitlement occurred after Dec. 1969 and before Apr. 15, 1970. Even though member's bonus entitlement is based on July 1971 extension of enlistment,

**GRATUITIES—Continued**

Page

**Reenlistment bonus—Continued****Extension of enlistment—Continued****More than one—Continued****Effective date of aggregate extension—Continued**

for purpose of payment the day before member began serving on first extension corresponds to statutory date "of discharge and release" contained in 37 U.S.C. 308(a); and aggregate reenlistment became effective Mar. 2, 1970, requiring reenlistment bonus to be computed on basis of 1969 pay scale.-----

515

**Pay increase rate applicability**

Member of uniformed services who extended 4-year enlistment on Apr. 14, 1970, under 10 U.S.C. 509 for 26 months effective Apr. 15, 1970, date of issuance of E.O. No. 11525, making new pay rates authorized by Pub. L. 90-207 and Pub. L. 91-231, retroactively effective to Jan. 1, 1970, is entitled to have reenlistment bonus earned under 37 U.S.C. 308(a) computed at new pay rates as Defense Dept. implementation of Executive order, which restricts use of increased rates in computation of reenlistment bonus when entitlement occurs after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, has no application to member who beginning his extended enlistment on Apr. 15, 1970, is entitled to computation of reenlistment bonus under par. 10905 of Defense Military Pay and Allowances Manual.-----

36

Member of uniformed services who had been paid reenlistment bonus based on 1969 pay scale for 2-year extension of enlistment, effective Mar. 15, 1970, may only be paid upon subsequent reextension of enlistment for 1 year, effective Mar. 15, 1972, on basis of 1969 pay scale, since reenlistment bonus rate is governed by sec. 2(a) of E.O. No. 11525, under which bonus payment for first extension was limited to 1969 pay scale; and since by virtue of 10 U.S.C. 509 second extension placed member "in exactly the same status as though he originally extended his enlistment for the aggregate of all the extensions" on Mar. 15, 1970, payment for 3-year aggregate reenlistment bonus is restricted to 1969 pay scale by sec. 2(b) of E.O. No. 11525.-----

515

**HIGHWAYS****Construction****Federal-aid highway programs****National park system****Percentage of participation**

Authority in Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1950, 23 U.S.C. 120(g), to pay 100 percent of cost of highways located within national parks and monuments under jurisdiction of National Park Service (NPS) does not permit financing of entire cost attendant to construction of Theodore Roosevelt Bridge over Potomac River and Little River Crossing as these areas although within NPS jurisdiction are not part of national park system for purposes of 23 U.S.C. 120(g), which authorizes Sec. of Transportation to construct roads through national parks and monuments and relates only incidentally to administration and protection of parks and monuments as contemplated by act of Aug. 8, 1953, as amended. Therefore, 90-10 Interstate project agreement with Dist. of Columbia may not be amended, nor may 100 percent participation funds be made available to construct other bridges over lands mentioned in act of June 4, 1934.-----

794

**HIGHWAYS—Continued****Construction—Continued****Federal-aid highway programs—Continued****Relocation costs****Replacement to be similar design**

As replacement highway bridge over Cross-Florida Barge Canal is required to be constructed in accordance with sec. 207(c), Pub. L. 87-874, Oct. 23, 1962, which limits construction of replacement facility to State design standards that apply to roads of same classification, determined on basis of traffic existing at time of taking, approval by Corps of Engineers of two two-lane bridges to be constructed at Govt. expense in lieu of existing two-lane highway in order to accommodate future growth constitutes betterment of facility in contravention of sec. 207(c) and, therefore, funds available to Corps may not be used to construct second bridge, whether or not design standard was in actual practice or published. However, State standards that provide for range of traffic rather than projected future traffic count are acceptable-----

661

**HOLIDAYS****Monday****Effect on entitlements****Rural mail carrier allowances**

Equipment maintenance allowance to rural mail carriers authorized under 39 U.S.C. 3543(f) would not be payable to carriers on five Monday national holidays established by Pub. L. 90-363, approved June 28, 1968, if carriers were not scheduled to work on those days and so notified in advance. Applying construction of act of Feb. 28, 1925, former similar authority for paying allowance, to effect allowance is payable "in the same manner as payment for regular compensation" and on basis of miles "scheduled," it follows U.S. Postal Service is not required to pay allowance if rural mail carriers are notified in advance that they will not be scheduled or required to deliver mail on their routes on particular day when they otherwise normally would do so-----

735

**Sundays****Deadline for required actions**

Timely mailed revocation of dues allotment to employee organization made pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5525, which was received in payroll office on Monday, Mar. 2, first workday after Mar. 1 deadline set by Civil Service Commission, 5 CFR 550.308, constitutes compliance with regulation under rule that when act is to be performed by certain date and last day of period falls on Sunday, requirement is complied with if act is performed on following day. Therefore, discontinuance of allotment having become effective at beginning of first full pay period following Mar. 1 deadline, dues deducted subsequent to revocation are for collection from employee organization and repayment to employee-----

108

**HOWARD UNIVERSITY****Employees****Transferred from Freedmen's Hospital****Leave status**

Employee who by reason of transfer from Freedmen's Hospital to jurisdiction of Howard University under Pub. L. 87-262 is entitled to credit for retirement purposes for continuous employment with University, upon reemployment with Federal or District of Columbia Govt. **may not have service creditable for retirement credited as service**

**HOWARD UNIVERSITY—Continued**

Page

**Employees—Continued**

**Transferred from Freedmen's Hospital—Continued**

**Leave status—Continued**

toward annual leave accrual provided in 5 U.S.C. 6303(a), as University is not Govt. instrumentality and, therefore, service with University is not considered Federal civilian service. Since former Freedmen's Hospital employees received lump-sum leave payment upon transfer to Hospital, indicating separation, and Pub. L. 87-262 makes no provision for crediting service for leave accrual purposes, continuous service with Howard may not be considered as not having had break in service-----

820

**HUSBAND AND WIFE**

**Separation agreements**

**Tax refund**

Liability for proceeds of income tax refund check bearing only initials of husband and wife still married but separated at time of endorsement by husband and deposited in joint account with his mother, whose initials were similar to wife's, is for determination by Federal and not State law in interest of uniformity. Although use of initials did not facilitate forgery and ordinarily cashing bank would be required to refund one-half of check, as in "same name cases," reclamation proceedings against bank are not required since joint income tax is treated as return of single individual and payment to husband as one of joint obligees extinguished liability of Govt. for tax overpayment, and ownership rights of spouses are for determination by local law in appropriate proceedings -----

441

**INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

(See Documents, incorporation by reference)

**INDIAN AFFAIRS**

**Contracting with Government**

**Preference to Indian concerns**

Grant of preferential treatment by negotiating contract without competition with dairy corporation that is 51 percent owned by persons of Indian descent; that is located 30 miles from Indian reservation, but will employ Indian help; and that is financed by Small Business Administration loan, conforms to reasonable criteria established to accomplish purposes of so-called Buy Indian Act (25 U.S.C. 47), to acquire products and services from Indian industry, and to loan criteria established by Administration. Fact that minority owner is non-Indian and will furnish expertise and managerial ability does not impute that firm is "straw" organization or is unqualified as Indian industry. Therefore, firm may be considered eligible if prior to award it obtains required interstate shipper's permit-----

94

**INTEREST**

**Adjustment**

**Interest charged by Federal home loan banks**

**Appropriation availability**

Notwithstanding sec. 101 of Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 authorized appropriation of funds without fiscal year limitation for purpose of adjusting effective interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, Congress having in sec. 509 of Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1971, which provided funds to implement enabling act, restricted avail-

**INTEREST—Continued****Adjustment—Continued****Interest charged by Federal home loan banks—Continued****Appropriation availability—Continued**

ability of funds appropriated by act to current fiscal year unless otherwise expressly provided, "no-year" provision in authorization act is not incorporated in appropriation act so as to meet requirements of 31 U.S.C. 718, and, therefore, funds appropriated for interest adjustment payments by Federal home loan banks are not available for obligation beyond June 30, 1971.-----

857

**Appropriation obligation**

In implementation of program authorized by sec. 101 of Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 for adjustment of interest charged by Federal home loan banks on borrowings, and for which funds were appropriated on fiscal year basis, an obligation within meaning of sec. 1311 of Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1955, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 200, will come into being at time member institutions request commitments for allowance funds from Federal home loan bank of which they are member. However, so as not to nullify fiscal year limitation, expiration of commitment should occur at end of reasonable period. Moreover, home loan bank records constitute evidence of obligation, unused commitments will become deobligated and may not be reobligated if period of obligation has expired, and certifications required by 31 U.S.C. 200(c) are not to be made by persons below level of chief accounting officer.-----

857

**Payment delay****Contracts**

Rejection of bid under solicitation issued for Federal Supply Schedule contract to furnish wood office furniture because of inclusion of qualifying provision "1½% interest per month on past due invoices," which contracting officer refused to delete, was proper under sec. 1-2.404-2 (b) (5) of Federal Procurement Regs. Regulation provides for rejection of bid if bidder imposes conditions which would modify requirements of invitation, or limit his liability or rights of Govt. to his advantage, and although objectionable conditions may be deleted if they do not go to substance of bid—that is, that they only have trivial or negligible effect on price, quantity, quality, or delivery—condition imposed affected price and could not be deleted. Furthermore, contracting officer is without authority to obligate Govt. to pay interest on unpaid invoices. 5 Comp. Gen. 649, modified.-----

733

**INTERIOR DEPARTMENT****National Park Service****Land disposition****Replacement**

In development of rail rapid transit system, Board of Directors of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority—instrumentality created by Compact with consent of Congress—may acquire lands under administration of National Park Service of Dept. of Interior, and should cash be paid for appraised value of parklands, cash is for deposit into Treasury in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 484. However, if congressional approval is sought to use money to replace surface parklands, amount received by Dept. may be held in escrow for period not to exceed 2 years. Furthermore, under provisions of Compact, Board has authority to purchase land to replace surface parklands needed for transit purposes.-----

159

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Page

**Transfer of Federal employees, etc.**

**Reemployment guarantees**

Employee of Federal Govt. who transferred to public international organization with reemployment rights under 5 U.S.C. 3582(b), prior to enactment of Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, is not entitled to retroactive salary adjustment authorized by act for employees on rolls on effective date of act—Apr. 15, 1970—condition precedent to entitlement. However, since under sec. 3582(b) employee who transfers to public international organization is guaranteed that upon reemployment compensation payable will not be less than if employee had remained on Govt. rolls, any salary adjustment required upon reemployment may include retroactive salary payment employee would have received if on rolls on Apr. 15, 1970-----

173

**INVESTMENTS**

**Land grant colleges**

Since Federal City College is land grant college within purview of "First Morrill Act" as provided by Dist. of Columbia Education Act, land grant funds available to college are exempted from 47 D.C. Code 135, which directs investment in U.S. Treasury securities, and Congress in education act approved investment in accordance with land grant act in "bonds of the United States or of the States or some other safe bonds." "Other safe bonds" are obligations of various Federal agencies, other than Treasury securities, that are guaranteed by U.S., industrial bonds approved for investment by fiduciaries under Rules of U.S. Dist. Court, and certificates of deposit in federally insured banks, but not savings accounts in banks or savings and loan associations. Furthermore, deficiencies from investments may be made up from appropriations, and to minimize losses, bonds may be sold before maturity-----

712

**JOINT VENTURES**

**Small business status**

Low bid submitted under total small business set-aside for Air Force Base construction project which bore three names of joint venture shown in bid bond accompanying bid, but was signed by president of only small business concern involved, may not be awarded to either joint venture or small business concern on basis two large business firms had associated with small business concern only for purpose of obtaining bid bond. As to joint venture, there was none at time of bid submission or opening, and subsequently submitted information could not create joint venture for purpose of bid ratification—even if it could, joint venture as large concern would be ineligible for award, nor would award to small concern be proper as bid bond named joint venture as principal-----

530

**LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE**

**Grants-in-aid**

**Restrictions on expenditures**

**Retroactive removal**

The 1970 amendment to Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1968, which makes clear that personnel compensation limitations only apply to restrict use of grant funds for payment of police and other regular law-enforcement personnel and not to support services, may be retroactively applied to unobligated and unspent block grants awarded for fiscal years 1969 and 1970 on matching basis by Law Enforcement Assistance Admin-

**LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE—Continued**

Page

**Grants-in-aid—Continued****Restrictions on expenditures—Continued****Retroactive removal—Continued**

istration under 1963 act to States for subgranting, as well as to "discretionary" grants made to States or directly to cities and counties, as rule against retroactive application of Statutes—absent clear intent to the contrary—pertains to enactment that would prejudicially affect vested rights, or legal character of past transactions, whereas 1969 and 1970 fiscal year grant funds committed by Govt. are yet to be obligated by States-----

750

**LEAVES OF ABSENCE****Annual****Accrual****Crediting basis****Former Freedmen's Hospital employees**

Employee who by reason of transfer from Freedmen's Hospital to jurisdiction of Howard University under Pub. L. 87-262 is entitled to credit for retirement purposes for continuous employment with University, upon reemployment with Federal or District of Columbia Govt. may not have service creditable for retirement credited as service toward annual leave accrual provided in 5 U.S.C. 6303(a), as University is not Govt. instrumentality and, therefore, service with University is not considered Federal civilian service. Since former Freedmen's Hospital employees received lump-sum leave payment upon transfer to Hospital, indicating separation, and Pub. L. 87-262 makes no provision for crediting service for leave accrual purposes, continuous service with Howard may not be considered as not having had break in service-----

820

**Civilians on military duty****"To enforce the law"****Strikes**

Duties performed by civilian employees who as Reserves of Armed Forces and National Guardsmen were called into active military service pursuant to Presidential Proc. 3972, dated Mar. 23, 1970, to carry out work of striking Postal Service employees are considered military aid to enforce law within meaning of 5 U.S.C. 6323(c), as military service was performed in order to cause laws relating to Post Office to have force and to protect mail; therefore, employees are entitled because of such service to military leave prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 6323(c), and their pay should be adjusted to comply with 5 U.S.C. 5519 by crediting military pay against civilian compensation payable to employees-----

154

**Compensatory time****Pay equivalent payments****National Guard technicians**

Air National Guard technicians, whether they are wage or nongraded employees or General Schedule employees, who for 12-hour workday receive 4 hours compensatory time for work in excess of 8 hours a day, or receive compensatory time for 8-hour Sunday tour of duty, are not entitled to environmental differential pay, night shift differential pay, or premium pay, as 32 U.S.C. 709(g) in authorizing Secretary concerned to prescribe hours of duty for technicians and to fix their basic compensation or additional compensation, provides for granting of compensatory



**LEAVES OF ABSENCE—Continued**

Page

**Compensatory time—Continued**

**Pay equivalent payments—Continued**

**National Guard technicians—Continued**

time in amount equal to time spent in irregular or overtime work with no compensation for compensatory time, since compensatory time is intended to be in lieu of overtime or differential pay for additional hours of work -----

847

**Military personnel**

**Excess leave accrual**

**"Continuous period" interruptions**

**Hostile fire pay area duty**

Right of member of uniformed services to accumulate 90 days' leave under 10 U.S.C. 701(f) while serving on board ship which operates in designated fire area for continuous period of at least 120 days, during which time he is entitled to special pay authorized in 37 U.S.C. 310(a), is not affected by fact that ship to which assigned operates in and out of designated hostile fire area. Since crewmembers qualify for hostile fire pay for each month of 4-month period of duty in hostile fire area, "continuous period" requirement in sec. 701(f) for accruing excess leave is satisfied, provided absence during any part of 120 days from designated area is for periods of less than calendar month-----

830

**Reenlistment leave**

**Transportation costs**

Since under 10 U.S.C. 703(b) members of uniformed services are only authorized transportation at expense of U.S. to and from place of leave selected for 30 days' special leave provided for voluntary extension of tour of duty in hostile area, reimbursement for travel to and from place of leave in addition to actual round-trip transportation costs is restricted to taxicab or other public carrier fares for transportation to and from carrier terminals utilized in performing authorized travel, as such fares constitute part of actual transportation costs, as well as those tips that are within limitations of par. M4402-4 of Joint Travel Regs., and members may not be reimbursed for miscellaneous expenses that are not related to transportation costs, such as cost of checking and transferring baggage, or passport and visa fees-----

764

**Transfers**

**District of Columbia government employment**

Enrollees in a work-training program conducted by District of Columbia government under Title 1, Part B, of Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, who are given appointments as employees of District government and, therefore, are covered by Annual and Sick Leave Act of 1951, upon transfer to Federal positions may have unused annual and sick leave balances accumulated and accrued as District employees transferred to their Federal positions, and their service with District used to establish annual-leave-earning categories, for although officers and employees of District of Columbia government are not Federal employees, they are specifically included in Annual and Sick Leave provisions of 5 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*-----

98

**LEGISLATION****Construction. (See Statutory Construction)****Retroactive effect****Liability relief cases****Postal Service**

The new sec. 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b), which places responsibility to relieve, compromise, or otherwise settle relief cases concerning Postal matters in Postal Service and removes U.S. GAO from process does not have effect of setting aside decisions already made by GAO on relief matters under 31 U.S.C. 82a-1 or 39 U.S.C. 2401. Although procedural or remedial statutes such as 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) are not subject to general rule against retroactive application and they apply to all accrued, pending, and future actions, steps already taken, pleadings, and all things done under old law stand, unless contrary intent is manifested. Since change in procedural law does not operate retroactively, new authority of 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) does not extend to affect, change, or modify actions taken by GAO on postal relief matters prior to effective date of section-----

Page

731

**MARITIME MATTERS****Subsidies****Construction-differential****Rate applicable**

Construction-differential subsidy rate ceiling applicable to subsidy grants made pursuant to Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended, is pursuant to title V of act, and its legislative history, determinable by rate in force at time ship construction contract is awarded and not at rate in effect at time administrative action is taken to effectuate grant and, therefore, for contracts entered into prior to reversion of temporary subsidy rate of 55 percent of domestic bid prices to 50 percent, applicable construction-differential subsidy rate is higher rate, even though final administrative action was not taken before subsidy rate revision downward -----

86

**Vessels****Sales****American v. foreign purchasers**

In sale for scrapping of vessels from national defense fleet, secs. 5 and 6 of Merchant Marine Act of 1920, affording preference to U.S. citizens, remain in effect and are applicable to sales for scrapping or otherwise, for notwithstanding secs. 508 and 510 (j) of 1936 Merchant Marine Act authorizing sale of surplus vessels contain no preference provisions, Maritime Administration continued to accord preference to U.S. citizens, and addition of sec. 510 (j) to 1936 act by amendment in 1965 did not repeal preference aspects of 1920 act by implication, an interpretation in accord with *Amell v. United States*, 384 U.S. 158. Furthermore, histories of 1936 act and 1965 amendment do not indicate intent to deprive domestic firms of preference obtained under 1920 act-----

167

**MEETINGS**

Page

Attendance, etc., fees

Federally sponsored meetings

Military personnel

Registration fees incurred by member of uniformed services while on temporary duty, incident to attendance at meeting, conference, or workshop sponsored by Federal agency, may be reimbursed to member from appropriations available to Dept. of Defense for travel expenses under appropriate Departmental regulations when member is otherwise properly directed by orders of competent authority to attend meeting in temporary duty status; but since Federal agency meeting is not meeting of technical, scientific, professional, or similar organization within contemplation of 37 U.S.C. 412, approval of Secretary of Defense required by sec. 412 is not necessary-----

527

**MILEAGE**

Military personnel

Travel by privately owned automobile

Between lodging and duty station

Chief warrant officer who is detached from duty station at Hunter Army Airfield and assigned to duty overseas with temporary duty en route at Fort Stewart—both locations within 40-mile radius and considered two different duty stations under Joint Travel Regs. as they are established subdivisions with definite boundaries, even though administered as single post with single command and staff—is not entitled to travel allowance for commuting daily by privately owned automobile from residence to temporary duty station since there was no official necessity for return to old duty station and there is no evidence warrant officer could not obtain lodgings at temporary duty station, but he is entitled to per diem on basis he entered travel status day he reported for temporary duty, notwithstanding he continued to occupy his old residence-----

803

**MILITARY PERSONNEL**

Aliens

Retired pay. (*See Pay, retired, foreign residence effect*)

Allowances

Family. (*See Family Allowances*)

Quarters. (*See Quarters Allowance*)

Station allowances. (*See Station Allowances*)

Automobiles

Transportation. (*See Transportation, automobiles*)

Aviation duty

Pay. (*See Pay, Aviation duty*)

Civilian service

Double compensation. (*See Compensation, double, concurrent military retired and civilian service pay*)

Coast guard. (*See Coast Guard*)

Courts-martial

Witnesses

Travel expenses

Issuance of invitational travel orders and payment of commuted travel allowances under 5 U.S.C. 5703 to civilian persons other than Federal Govt. employees who are requested to testify at pretrial in-

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Courts-martial—Continued****Witnesses—Continued****Travel expenses—Continued**

vestigations pursuant to Art. 32 of Uniform Code of Military Justice, 10 U.S.C. 832, which is implemented by Manual for Courts-Martial prescribed by E.O. No. 11476, June 19, 1969, may be authorized, even though manual makes no provision for subpoena of witnesses and payment of witness fees, since investigations are integral part of courts-martial proceedings. However, as approval authority is discretionary, it should be exercised within framework of Military Code, which in Art. 49 provides for depositions, and Manual, which in par. 34d prescribes guidelines and Joint Travel Regs. revised accordingly-----

810

**Dependents**

Dislocation allowance. (*See* Transportation, dependents, military personnel, dislocation allowance)

Transportation. (*See* Transportation, dependents, military personnel)

Details. (*See* Details, military personnel)

Disability retired pay. (*See* Pay, retired, disability)

Dislocation allowance. (*See* Transportation, dependents, military personnel, dislocation allowance)

**Dual benefits****Acceptability**

Navy members who travel during 48 hours of liberty, 72 hours if holiday is involved, from place of ship overhaul to home port of ship to visit dependents and return at Govt. expense pursuant to Pub. L. 91-210, do not forfeit entitlement to \$30 per month Family Separation Allowance, type II, authorized in 37 U.S.C. 427(b) for members separated from their dependents while on board ship for continuous period of more than 30 days. The legislative history of Pub. L. 91-210, enacted as beneficial legislation to permit members to travel at Govt. expense from place of vessel overhaul to home port to visit dependents, evidences no intent to deprive member of other benefits by reason of short visit with dependents on usual type of Navy liberty-----

334

**Retired pay and civilian severance pay**

Upon reduction in force as civilian employee of U.S., retired member of uniformed services may not be paid severance pay as 1965 authorizing act (5 U.S.C. 5595) excludes payment of severance pay to person subject to Civil Service Retirement Act or any other retirement law or system applicable to Federal officers or employees or members of uniformed services who at time of separation have fulfilled requirements for immediate annuity—a term including retired pay—and prohibition against payment of severance pay is applicable without regard to when member first becomes entitled to military retired pay, or whether he is eligible under Dual Compensation Act of 1964 (5 U.S.C. 5531-5534) to receive military retired pay concurrently in whole or in part with compensation of his civilian office or position-----

46

Excess living costs outside United States, etc. (*See* Station Allowances, military personnel, excess living cost outside United States, etc.)

Family separation allowances. (*See* Family Allowances, separation) Gratuities. (*See* Gratuities)

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Household effects**

Storage. (*See* Storage, household effects, military personnel)

Transportation. (*See* Transportation, household effects, military personnel)

Leaves of absence. (*See* Leaves of Absence, military personnel)

**Meetings**

Attendance, etc., fees. (*See* Meetings, attendance, etc., fees)

Mileage. (*See* Mileage, military personnel)

Missing, interned, etc., persons

**Housetrailer transportation**

Transportation of housetrailer at Govt. expense for dependents of member of uniformed services in missing status, as defined in 37 U.S.C. 551(2), may not be provided in absence of specific authority. 37 U.S.C. 554, in authorizing transportation of dependents and household and personal effects of members in missing status, does not expressly provide for transportation of housetrailer or mobile home—and words “personal effects” as used in section may not be construed as including housetrailer—and 37 U.S.C. 409, in providing for trailer allowance in lieu of transportation of baggage and household goods, and payment of dislocation allowance, restricts entitlement to member, or in case of death to dependents, and makes no provision for payment in event member is in missing status-----

317

Pay. (*See* Pay, missing, interned, etc., persons)

**Savings deposits**

**Retroactive deposits**

Additional amounts due missing member of uniformed services not as result of correction of records pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, but simply because amounts due were not credited through administrative oversight, may be retroactively deposited in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)) commensurate with date deposit accrued, for it would be contrary to congressional intent in enacting Savings Deposit Program to prevent deposits from being made as they accrued merely because of administrative errors-----

718

National Guard. (*See* National Guard)

Orders. (*See* Orders)

Pay. (*See* Pay)

Per diem. (*See* Subsistence, per diem, military personnel)

Promotions. (*See* Pay, promotions)

Quarters allowance. (*See* Quarters Allowance)

**Record correction**

Deposits retroactively in the Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program

Missing, interned, etc., persons

When as result of correction of records under 10 U.S.C. 1552 member of uniformed services in missing status becomes entitled to item of pay or allowance retroactively, amount due member may be deposited retroactively in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program established by Pub. L. 90-122 (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)), in same manner as if his original records had shown same information contained in corrected records, and record as corrected should show amounts and dates of all deposits made pursuant to corrected record-----

718

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Record correction—Continued****Existing record basis only**

Fact that Correction of Military Records Board on Apr. 11, 1969, directed change of records pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, to show that Air Force captain had not been twice passed over for promotion to temporary grade of major, and that if selected for promotion by next regularly scheduled board, promotion was to be effective from date first selection board convened, although at same time denying his request for promotion, does not entitle officer promoted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8442 and 8447(b) on June 27, 1969, effective Feb. 20, 1968, to increased pay prior to June 27, 1969, for until promoted, no date could be established for commencement of higher pay, and Correction Board limited to making changes in existing record, its attempt to control future contingent event of promotion is not within purview of 10 U.S.C. 1552-----

125

**Payment basis****Interim civilian earnings**

In computation of active duty pay and allowances due an enlisted member of uniformed services incident to correction of military records under 10 U.S.C. 1552 to show that discharge was null and void and that he had remained on active duty until voluntarily retired under 10 U.S.C. 8914, deduction of interim civilian earnings is required, notwithstanding member retired earlier than required by decision of court in 419 F. 2d 714. Moreover, fact that Correction Board's recommendation against offsetting interim earnings was administratively approved is without effect as there is no discretionary power to make determinations of specific amounts to be paid pursuant to military records correction since payment depends solely upon proper application of statutes and regulations to facts shown in corrected record-----

180

Amount of civilian earnings for deduction from gross pay and allowances determined to be due incident to correction of military records, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, is gross and not net amount left after deduction of Federal and State income taxes and Social Security tax withheld from interim civilian earnings of member of uniformed services. To limit deduction from back pay and allowances found to be due member to civilian earnings after taxes would be tantamount to refunding taxes withheld from interim civilian compensation earned, and question of whether taxes should be refunded is for determination by taxing authorities concerned-----

236

**Unemployment compensation**

Payment for period of active duty incident to correction of military records of member of uniformed services is not subject to deduction for unemployment compensation received by member during period between premature discharge from duty and retirement, as rule in 35 Comp. Gen. 241 to effect unemployment compensation is not deductible from back pay of civilian employee restored to duty because of direct refund by employee is for application. Therefore, since unemployment compensation received by member does not come within purview of "interim civilian earnings" for purpose of administrative directive that such earnings are deductible in Correction Board cases, amount of unemployment compensation deducted from pay adjustment made to member is for refund to him-----

180

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

Reenlistment bonus. (*See* Gratuities, reenlistment bonus)

**Reserve Officers' Training Corps**

**Prior military training**

**Excused service**

Students enrolled in Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) under 10 U.S.C. 2107, which authorizes scholarship benefits, may on basis of conclusion in 46 Comp. Gen. 15 be considered to be within purview of 10 U.S.C. 2108(c), and Secretary concerned may excuse them from all or part of General Military Course (GMC) requirements, and students are eligible to receive financial benefits of scholarship award. Therefore, scholarship may be offered and all or part of GMC waived for incoming college freshman designated to receive 4-year ROTC college scholarship; college student enrolled as transfer from another institution during freshman or sophomore year; and student currently enrolled at institution but in ROTC program during freshman or sophomore year-----

486

**Rifle and pistol team competition**

**Status for allowances**

Since participation of members of Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in rifle and pistol team competition matches is neither military training nor part of ROTC curriculum, but participation is performed on voluntary extracurricular activity basis, to provide allowances to members participating in National Matches, they may be considered to have same status as civilians within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 4313 so as to entitle them to travel allowance of \$0.05 a mile and subsistence allowance of \$1.50 a day, and authority in 10 U.S.C. 4308(a) (8) may be invoked to provide allowances for participation in regional and international matches if Secretary of Army upon recommendation of National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice approves issuance of regulations to this effect.-----

783

**Scholarship benefits**

**Military training**

If student successfully completes first 2 years of 4-year Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps course for admission to advanced training prescribed in 10 U.S.C. 2104(b) (6) by reason of prior military education and training, 6 weeks' field training or practice cruise provision of section is not preliminary requirement for admission to "advanced course"—last 2 years of college—where student qualifies for excusal of General Military Course under 10 U.S.C. 2108(c)-----

486

Application of 10 U.S.C. 2108(c), providing for Secretary concerned to excuse all or part of General Military Course requirements for students enrolled in Reserve Officers' Training Corps, is not limited to scholarship program provided in 10 U.S.C. 2107, but excusal authority extends as well to advanced training program prescribed in 10 U.S.C. 2104. Student who is eligible for excusal on basis of previous education, military experience, or both, insofar as Reserve Officers' Training Corps Vitalization Act of 1964 (10 U.S.C. 2101–2111) is concerned, is eligible for financial benefits provided in either 10 U.S.C. 2104 or 10 U.S.C. 2107, if he otherwise qualifies.-----

486

Student currently enrolled at educational institution but not in Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program during freshman or sophomore year may be selected for scholarship under 10 U.S.C. 2107 if he

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Reserve Officers' Training Corps—Continued****Scholarship benefits—Continued****Military training—Continued**

possesses prerequisites for excusal from General Military Course under 10 U.S.C. 2108(c) and receive benefits of scholarship, for according to legislative history of sec. 2107, scholarship assistance may be provided for minimum of 1 year or maximum of 4 years, comments which were basis of conclusion in 50 Comp. Gen. 486, which is affirmed, and, therefore, student who does not participate in educational institution's Senior ROTC training program for 4 years may receive financial assistance authorized in sec. 2107 if he is excused by Secretary concerned from portions of 4-year program on basis of having performed equivalent military training-----

727

**Retired****Civilian service****Civilian disability compensation and military retired pay**

Regular Air Force sergeant retired pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8914, who while employed as a civilian in Federal Govt. loses use of finger, is not entitled to concurrent payment of civilian disability compensation and military retired pay on basis the compensation would be paid for permanent partial disability and not temporary total disability, thus bringing payment within exception to dual payment prohibition contained in 5 U.S.C. 8116(a). In application of limitation in sec. 8116(a), there has been no recognition of distinction between temporary and permanent disability, as statute makes no such distinction insofar as concurrent receipt of military or naval retired pay is concerned, and legislation would have to be enacted to permit concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation-----

491

**Retired pay. (See Pay, retired)****Retirement****Temporary disability retirement****Active duty subsequently**

Air Force officer who was placed on temporary disability retired list in grade of major effective June 1, 1968, recalled under 10 U.S.C. 1211 to active duty in temporary grade of lieutenant colonel for 1 day, June 30, 1970, with date of rank from July 19, 1968, and then retired for years of service under 10 U.S.C. 8911 in grade of lieutenant colonel effective July 1, 1970, is entitled to payment of difference in retired pay between grades of lieutenant colonel and major for months of June and July 1970, since prior to July 1, 1970, officer satisfied requirements of 10 U.S.C. 1211(a)(1). The officer's entitlement to retired pay at higher grade for 2 months involved is not under 10 U.S.C. 8963(a), as he only "served" 1 day in temporary grade, but under 10 U.S.C. 8961, which authorizes officer to retire in grade he "holds" not the grade in which he "served" on date of retirement-----

677



**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Savings deposits**

**Missing, interned, etc., persons**

**Retroactive adjustment deposits**

When as result of correction of records under 10 U.S.C. 1552 member of uniformed services in missing status becomes entitled to item of pay or allowance retroactively, amount due member may be deposited retroactively in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program established by Pub. L. 90-122 (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)), in same manner as if his original records had shown same information contained in corrected records, and record as corrected should show amounts and dates of all deposits made pursuant to corrected record-----

718

Additional amounts due missing member of uniformed services not as result of correction of records pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, but simply because amounts due were not credited through administrative oversight, may be retroactively deposited in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)) commensurate with date deposit accrued, for it would be contrary to congressional intent in enacting Savings Deposit Program to prevent deposits from being made as they accrued merely because of administrative errors-----

718

**Separation**

**Consent, etc., requirement**

While purpose of 10 U.S.C. 1163(a) is to prevent officer of Reserve component of uniformed services with at least 3 years' commissioned service from being arbitrarily separated without officer's consent, unless separation is recommended by board of officers convened by authority designated by Secretary concerned, there is nothing in section to preclude officer who has not consented to separation from waiving consideration by board of officers-----

229

**Involuntary**

Under 10 U.S.C. 687(a), member of Reserve component, or member of Army or Air Force without component, who is relieved from active duty "involuntarily," is entitled to readjustment pay, and since it is mandatory under Air Force Reg. 36-12, which establishes procedures governing separation of officers, to discharge woman officer when determination is made by medical officer that she is pregnant, she is considered involuntarily separated and entitled to readjustment pay, whether she is separated with or without her consent, sole determining factor being that of pregnancy. Therefore, Reserve officer separated without her consent by reason of pregnancy who waived hearing and board recommendations in 10 U.S.C. 1163(a), having been involuntarily separated, is entitled to readjustment pay-----

229

**Service credits. (See Pay, service credits)**

**Ship assignments**

**Ships inactivated away from home port**

**Transportation benefits**

Transportation benefits prescribed by Pub. L. 91-210, approved Mar. 13, 1970, 37 U.S.C. 406b, for members of uniformed services permanently attached to ships being overhauled away from home port, whose dependents reside at home port, may not be extended to personnel of ships being inactivated away from home port to authorize reimbursement for round trip travel to visit dependents residing at home port.

**MILITARY PERSONNEL—Continued**

Page

**Ship assignments—Continued****Ships inactivated away from home port—Continued****Transportation benefits—Continued**

Although act does not define "overhaul," and its meaning is not reflected in legislative history of act, since Navy's definition of "overhaul" does not include inactivation of ship, benefits of act may not be extended to personnel of ships being inactivated away from home port. However, no exception will be taken to payments already made-----

320

**Station allowances. (See Station Allowances)****Subsistence****Per diem. (See Subsistence, per diem)****Temporary duty****Firefighting**

As members of uniformed services ordered to proceed on temporary duty in Govt. vehicles to assist Forest Service in firefighting, whether they sleep in Govt. or personal sleeping bags, in vehicles, on ground without sleeping bags, on floors of warehouses and similar structures, or do not sleep on certain nights because of duty performance, are not performing type duty identified as maneuvers, joint field exercises, Reserve training encampments, and similar activities, payment of per diem to them is governed by par. M4205-6 of Joint Travel Regs., and members who were not charged for meals or sleeping facilities provided by Forest Service nor who did not occupy commercial facilities, are entitled for each day of temporary duty, to per diem of \$2.50 and \$3.10 for each meal not furnished, rates prescribed by regulation-----

773

**Temporary lodging allowances. (See Station Allowances, military personnel, temporary lodgings)****Trailer shipments. (See Transportation, household effects, military personnel, trailer shipment)****Transportation****Automobiles. (See Transportation, automobiles, military personnel)****Dependents. (See Transportation, dependents, military personnel)****Household effects. (See Transportation, household effects, military personnel)****Travel expenses. (See Travel expenses, military personnel)****MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS****Appropriations reverted to Treasury****Availability**

Although utilization by Postal Service of obligated and unobligated appropriations available to Post Office Dept. on July 1, 1970, effective date of transition of its functions to Postal Service is permitted under 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2), unobligated balances for fiscal year 1970 and prior years that had reverted to Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 701 would require act of Congress to be made available to Postal Service for liquidation of valid obligations. However, 1971 appropriations need not be included in any reappropriation of funds since they had not expired for obligation or reverted to Treasury. Notwithstanding 39 U.S.C. 1005(e) requires Postal Service to assume obligation to pay for annual leave that accrued to employees before and after transition, since such leave is not chargeable to unexpended balances of prior year appropriations transferred to Service, Federal Govt. pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 2002(a)(2) is liable for payments-----

863

**MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS—Continued**

Page

**Special account v. miscellaneous receipts**

**Proceeds from sales, etc.**

**Public lands for subway**

In development of rail rapid transit system, Board of Directors of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority—instrumentality created by Compact with consent of Congress—may acquire lands under administration of National Park Service of Dept. of Interior, and should cash be paid for appraised value of parklands, cash is for deposit into Treasury in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 484. However, if congressional approval is sought to use money to replace surface parklands, amount received by Dept. may be held in escrow for period not to exceed 2 years. Furthermore, under provisions of Compact, Board has authority to purchase land to replace surface parklands needed for transit purposes.--- 159

**Property damage collections**

Moneys received from carriers by National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) in settlement for goods lost or damaged in transit that were shipped in connection with operations of Administration should be deposited for credit to account of Administration and not general fund of Treasury since miscellaneous receipts rule (31 U.S.C. 484) is not for application, as operating funds of NCUA are not provided by annual appropriations but by fees and assessments upon credit unions pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1755, which provides for deposit of collections from credit unions with Treasurer of U.S. for credit to account of Administration.--- 545

**NATIONAL GUARD.**

**Pay**

**Increases**

Member of Army National Guard who was on active duty for training on Apr. 15, 1970, whether or not fulfilling his REP 63, term meaning obligation incurred under Reserve Enlistment Program of 1963 to serve on active duty training for period of at least 4 months and to serve in Reserve component until sixth anniversary of date of enlistment, is not entitled to retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills attended subsequent to Dec. 31, 1969, and before Apr. 15, 1970, since both under pertinent provisions of Career Compensation Act and National Guard regulations member of National Guard on full-time training duty cannot be in "drill pay status" while on active duty, and acts of Dec. 16, 1967, and Apr. 15, 1970, only authorize retroactive adjustment in basic pay under 1970 rates if member was in "drill pay status" on Apr. 15, 1970.----- 868

**NONDISCRIMINATION**

**Contracts. (See Contracts, labor stipulations, nondiscrimination)**

**Requirement**

**Appointments**

Upon determination that employee who received excepted Schedule B appointment at grade GS-9 was discriminated against because of race or sex, which is expressly prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 7154(b) and 5 CFR 713.202, as she qualified for a GS-11 position and was assigned and performed work warranting a GS-11 classification, correction of personnel action and adjustment in pay is legally justified on basis original classification and appointment as GS-9 was illegal, and corrective action is not viewed as retroactive promotion such as ordinarily is prohibited by law.--- 581

**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES**

Page

**Accountable officers.** (*See Accountable Officers*)**Allowances****Evacuation.** (*See Officers and Employees, overseas, dependents, evacuation*)**Compensation.** (*See Compensation*)**Compensatory time.** (*See Leaves of absence, compensatory time*)**Concurrent receipt of two benefits**

Although civilian position held by retired officer of Regular component of uniformed services in U.S. Army Special Services Agency, Europe—local nonappropriated fund activity—is position subject to reduction of retired pay prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5532(b), reduction is not required in officer's retired pay as reduction would exceed amount officer receives from civilian employment with additional reduction in retired pay, result that is not within contemplation of Dual Compensation Act of 1964, for it is unreasonable to require retired officers to accept smaller amount after employment in civilian position with Govt. than amount of retired pay he was receiving before that time.-----

604

**Death or injury****Disability compensation, etc.****Military retired pay**

Regular Air Force sergeant retired pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8914, who while employed as civilian in Federal Govt. loses use of finger, is not entitled to concurrent payment of civilian disability compensation and military retired pay on basis the compensation would be paid for permanent partial disability and not temporary total disability, thus bringing payment within exception to dual payment prohibition contained in 5 U.S.C. 8116(a). In application of limitation in sec. 8116(a), there has been no recognition of distinction between temporary and permanent disability, as statute makes no such distinction insofar as concurrent receipt of military or naval retired pay is concerned, and legislation would have to be enacted to permit concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation -----

491

**Debt collections****Waiver.** (*See Debt collections, waiver, civilian employees*)**Dependents****Separation allowances****Special v. maintenance**

Under broad authority in 5 U.S.C. 5523(b), special allowances, prescribed by Standardized Regs. incident to evacuation of dependents at overseas post of duty, may be paid to employee in behalf of dependents who are not at his post at time of evacuation but who are directly affected by orders. However, as payments of additional allowances for unusual expenses must be attributable to post evacuation order, when dependents are absent for personal reasons at time evacuation order issues, with no intention of returning to post for duration of evacuation, employee is not entitled to special allowance, having incurred no unusual expenses; but if an absent dependent is prevented from returning by reason of evacuation order issued during his absence, unusual expenses incurred are payable from time intended return is blocked.-----

89

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued

Page

Dependents—Continued

Separation allowances—Continued

Special *v.* maintenance—Continued

Separate maintenance allowance paid at lower rate than special allowance authorized when dependents are evacuated from overseas post of employee, involves situations where dependents are not permitted to reside at employee's post under circumstances known well in advance to allow for reasonable planning and, therefore, serves different purpose than special allowances authorized incident to evacuation of dependents who, intending to reside at employee's post, are prevented from so doing by emergency under circumstances which do not permit orderly planning of employee's household. Furthermore, sec. 262.32 of Standardized Regs. prohibits payment of separation allowance for period that is less than 90 days—a limitation that does not apply to special allowance-----

89

Disputes

Arbitration

Following upgrading of entrance grades for attorneys to GS-9 and GS-11 from GS-7 and GS-9, and adjusting of grades as consequence, National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) negotiated agreement with NLRB Professional Assn. to consider shorter time periods for promotions and requested waiver of Whitten Amendment requirement of 1-year ingrade except when only 5 weeks or less remained to complete required year of service, and as agreement entered into pursuant to E.O. No. 10988, which reserved to Govt. authority to promote efficiency of personnel operations, does not guarantee promotions, exercise of 5-week rule is administrative and its validity is not matter for arbitration. Therefore, attorney whose promotion was delayed by reason of 5-week rule is not entitled to retroactive promotion for in absence of administrative error general rule against retroactive promotions applies-----

850

Downgrading

Saved compensation. (*See Compensation, downgrading, saved compensation*)

Dual compensation

Concurrent military retired and civilian service pay. (*See Compensation, double, concurrent military retired and civilian service pay*)

Holding two offices

Board, committee, and commission members

Prohibition

An attorney in private practice serving 3-year term as member of Advisory Council on Urban Transportation, Dept. of Transportation, established by Pub. L. 89-670, and which meets only a few days each year, who is paid per diem on "when-actually-employed basis" and travel expenses is ineligible to serve on National Water Commission, even if different days are devoted to intermittent service for each agency, as Council member is considered to have status similar to that of intermittent consultant employed and compensated on daily basis and held to be officer or employee of U.S., and, therefore, is prohibited from accepting appointment with Commission by language of National Water Commission Act that "no member of the Commission, during his period of service on the Commission, hold any other position as an officer or employee of the United States \* \* \*

736

**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued**

Page

**Hours of work****Administrative determination****Uncommon hours of duty**

Establishment of first 40 hours of duty as basic workweek of Govt. quality control inspectors due to release from work of contractor employees when unpredictable interruptions and delays occur in checkout of missiles prior to launch—countdown—was in accord with 5 U.S.C. 6101 and Civil Service Reg. 610.111, which authorize uncommon tours of duty to maintain efficient operations and prevent cost increases. Therefore, determination of arbitration board under E.O. No. 10988 procedures that new work schedule was in violation of collective bargaining contract, requires no compensation and leave adjustments. Moreover, Executive order provides that arbitration "shall be advisory in nature with any decision or recommendation subject to approval of the agency head"---  
**Household effects.** (See Transportation, household effects)

708

**Leaves of absence.** (See Leaves of Absence)

**Moving expenses**

**Public Law 89-516 authority.** (See Officers and employees, transfers, relocation expenses)

**Overseas****"Actual residence"**

The term "actual residence" is not defined in 5 U.S.C. 5722 or implementing regulations, which authorize travel and transportation expenses for new appointees to posts of duty outside continental U.S., and is for determination from facts of each case. Although term as used in sec. 5722 generally would be understood to mean place at which appointee physically resides at time of appointment, term may include "legal residence" or "domicile" of employee-----

644

**Dependents****Evacuation****Special allowance payments**

Under broad authority in 5 U.S.C. 5523(b), special allowances, prescribed by Standardized Regs. incident to evacuation of dependents at overseas post of duty, may be paid to employee in behalf of dependents who are not at his post at time of evacuation but who are directly affected by orders. However, as payments of additional allowances for unusual expenses must be attributable to post evacuation order, when dependents are absent for personal reasons at time evacuation order issues, with no intention of returning to post for duration of evacuation, employee is not entitled to special allowance, having incurred no unusual expenses; but if an absent dependent is prevented from returning by reason of evacuation order issued during his absence, unusual expenses incurred are payable from time intended return is blocked-----

89

Separate maintenance allowance paid at lower rate than special allowance authorized when dependents are evacuated from overseas post of employee, involves situations where dependents are not permitted to reside at employee's post under circumstances known well in advance to allow for reasonable planning and, therefore, serves different purpose than special allowances authorized incident to evacuation of dependents who, intending to reside at employee's post, are prevented from so doing by emergency under circumstances which do not permit orderly planning

**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued**

Page

**Overseas—Continued****Dependents—Continued****Evacuation—Continued****Special allowance payments—Continued**

of employee's household. Furthermore, sec. 262.32 of Standardized Regs. prohibits payment of separation allowance for period that is less than 90 days—a limitation that does not apply to special allowance.----- 89

**Hired overseas****Residence in United States, etc.**

Travel and transportation expenses of newly appointed employee from foreign country may be paid by Canal Zone agencies if employee at time of appointment has place of actual residence in U.S., its territories or possessions. However, as 5 U.S.C. 5722 authorizes payment of such expenses only from employee's place of actual residence at time of appointment, reimbursement may not exceed that which would have been allowed employee for travel and transportation from place of actual residence in U.S., its territories or possessions.----- 644

Former employee of Canal Zone Govt. whose place of actual residence was in California, but who at time of appointment was temporarily residing in Costa Rica, and who had transported his household goods to Costa Rica in his own truck prior to signing employment agreement, which he signed in Costa Rica prior to travel to Canal Zone, may be reimbursed travel and transportation expenses from Costa Rica to Canal Zone in accordance with provisions of Office of Management and Budget Cir. No. A-56, but he may not be reimbursed expenses of moving from California to Costa Rica since these expenses were not incurred in anticipation of his appointment in Canal Zone.----- 644

**Overtime. (See Compensation, overtime)****Per diem. (See Subsistence, per diem)****Postal service. (See Post Office Department, employees)****Promotions. (See Compensation, promotions)****Relocation expenses****Transferred employees. (See Officers and employees, transfers, relocation expenses)****Retirement. (See Retirement, civilian)****Service agreements****Manpower shortage category**

Agreements which appointees to manpower shortage positions execute pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5723(b), to remain in service of agency to which appointed or assigned for 12 months unless separated for reasons beyond their control which are acceptable to agency, should be revised to require only that employee remain in Govt. service, as language of sec. 5723(b) is substantially same as sec. 5724(i), which has been construed in *Finn v. U.S.*, Ct. Cl. No. 396-69, decided July 15, 1970, to require only that employee agree to remain "in the Government service" for period of 12 months rather than in service of particular agency.----- 374

**Transferred employees. (See Officers and Employees, transfers, service agreements)**

**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued****Page****Severance pay****Compensation.** (*See Compensation, severance pay*)**Eligibility****“Definite time limitation” employees**

Executive secretaries of local Selective Service boards who are given career or career-conditional appointments with 10-year time limitation, subject to reappointment for another 10-year term, separation, or reassignment to another position pursuant to 50 U.S.C. App. 460(b)(4), hold positions of permanent continuing nature and their appointments are considered to be in competitive service, making them eligible upon termination of their employment to severance pay provided under 5 U.S.C. 5595(a)(2) for temporary relief of employees separated from Federal service since exclusion of employees serving under appointment with “definite time limitation” from entitlement to severance pay does not apply to executive secretaries.-----

726

**Employee on military duty**

Fact that civilian Air Force technician was on required active military duty in Air Force Reserve when installation was transferred does not disqualify him for severance pay, as employee has restoration rights to civilian position at place where office has been relocated, or he may decline transfer and become eligible for severance pay on basis of being involuntarily separated from civil service. Employee declining transfer should be given paper restoration to establish pay scale and involuntary separation made of record, date of restoration to be date employee applied for restoration, and involuntary, separation date, date he informed agency he would not accept reassignment.-----

300

**Reassignment refused**

Refusal of civilian employee to accept order of reassignment to another geographical area, made for best interests of Govt., constituting insubordination within meaning of delinquency and misconduct as contemplated by sec. 550.705 of Civil Service Regs., employee is not entitled to severance pay under 5 U.S.C. 5595, which is authorized for employee separated “through no fault of his own” when he declines to accept assignment to another commuting area in connection with transfer of functions or reduction in force and therefore loses his job because of technological innovations and improved efficiency, or closing or curtailment of Federal installations.-----

476

Indication in Standard Form 57, Application for Federal Employment, that applicant would not accept employment outside State of residence does not make him as Federal employee immune from reassignment, as purpose of Form 57 is to inform appointing officers and not to embody contract of employment; and, therefore, condition imposed in employment application does not entitle employee who refuses to accept reassignment outside initial State of employment in interests of Govt. to severance pay authorized in 5 U.S.C. 5595 for employees involuntarily separated from service through no fault of their own.-----

476

**Separation status**

Distinction between separations involving transfer of function or reduction-in-force situation and declination of reassignment situation is that in first situation the primary purpose of employee's transfer is to meet responsibility to employee, whereas second situation is ordered



**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued**

Page

**Severance pay—Continued**

**Separation status—Continued**

reassignment of employee for good of service—first situation involves declination of offer; the second, refusal to follow order. Fact that equal treatment for employment purposes is accorded to employees in both situations under Displaced Employee Program provided by sec. 330.301 of Civil Service Regs. does not negate distinction to require equal treatment of employees in both situations for severance pay purposes.-----

476

**Status**

**Aliens**

Authority in 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive erroneous payments of compensation made to employees of executive agencies is applicable to non-U.S. citizens employed by U.S. in foreign areas, as term "employee" as used in sec. 5584 means employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 2105; that is, individual appointed in "civil service," which constitutes all appointive positions in executive, judicial, and legislative branches of Govt., except positions in uniformed services (5 U.S.C. 2101(1)). Therefore, Philippine citizen, properly appointed to position in executive branch to perform Federal function supervised by Federal employee, is employee under 5 U.S.C. 5584 and entitled to waiver of erroneous compensation payments without regard to fact employment is under labor agreement with Philippine Govt.-----

329

**Training**

**Expenses**

**Meals and room at headquarters**

Cost of catering services furnished by hotel located in Dist. of Columbia to conference held pursuant to Govt. Employees Training Act, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 41, and considered proper administrative expense when necessary to achieve objectives of training program, may be paid, prohibition in 40 U.S.C. 34 regarding procurement of hotel room accommodations in Dist. of Columbia in absence of express appropriation for rental of space for Govt. use in District having no application, even though cost of using hotel facilities are included in catering charges, as cost of space is merely cost item included by hotel in fixing catering charges and rental of space *per se* is not involved.-----

610

**Transfers**

**International organizations**

Employee of Federal Govt. who transferred to public international organization with reemployment rights under 5 U.S.C. 3582(b), prior to enactment of Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, is not entitled to retroactive salary adjustment authorized by act for employees on rolls on effective date of act—Apr. 15, 1970—condition precedent to entitlement. However, since under sec. 3582(b) employee who transfers to public international organization is guaranteed that upon reemployment compensation payable will not be less than if employee had remained on Govt. rolls, any salary adjustment required upon reemployment may include retroactive salary payment employee would have received if on rolls on Apr. 15, 1970.-----

173

**OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—Continued**

Page

**Transfers—Continued****Relocation expenses****Temporary quarters****Time limitation**

Employees of Federal Highway Administration who are transferred between duty stations within State of Alaska are only entitled to subsistence expenses for period of 30 days while occupying temporary quarters with their dependents, which is period prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5724a (a) (3) and implementing regulations when new official station is located within U.S., its territories or possessions, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or Canal Zone. Extension of subsistence allowance for additional period of up to 30 days occupancy of temporary quarters applies only when employee transfers to or from Hawaii, Alaska, territories or possessions, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or Canal Zone, and, therefore, employees transferred within Alaska are subject to 30-day limitation -----

829

**Service agreements****Government v. particular agency service**

In view of *Finn v. U.S.*, Ct. Cl. No. 396-69, decided July 15, 1970, to effect that Govt. agency does not have authority under 5 U.S.C. 5724(i) to require employee to sign agreement to remain in service of agency for 12 months following effective date of transfer, holding in 46 Comp. Gen. 738 that agreements executed under sec. 5724(i) require an employee to remain with particular agency rather than "in the Government service" no longer is for application, with exception of last paragraph concerning taking of appropriate collection action if employee fails to remain in Govt. service for 12 months-----

374

Travel expenses. (See Travel Expenses)

**Traveltime**

Overtime. (See Compensation, overtime, traveltime)

**Wage board**

Compensation. (See Compensation, wage board employees)

**When-actually-employed, intermittent, etc., employees****Board, committee, and commission members**

An attorney in private practice serving 3-year term as member of Advisory Council on Urban Transportation, Dept. of Transportation, established by Pub. L. 89-670, and which meets only a few days each year, who is paid per diem on "when-actually-employed basis" and travel expenses is ineligible to serve on National Water Commission, even if different days are devoted to intermittent service for each agency, as Council member is considered to have status similar to that of intermittent consultant employed and compensated on daily basis and held to be officer or employee of U.S., and, therefore, is prohibited from accepting appointment with Commission by language of National Water Commission Act that "no member of the Commission, during his period of service on the Commission, hold any other position as an officer or employee of the United States \* \* \* "-----

736

**ORDERS**

Page

**Retroactive**

**Military matters**

**Transportation and travel matters**

Treatment of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, located 40 miles apart, as one installation with one staff which resulted in movement of military and civilian personnel freely between both installations without competent orders directing permanent change-of-station or performance of temporary duty may not be corrected by issuance of retroactive orders to confirm assignments and authorize travel allowances for temporary duty or permanent change-of-station allowances incident to assignments, even though for purposes of Joint Travel Regs., installations are considered different stations since retroactive orders would be without effect to change vested rights of personnel involved.-----

803

**PAY**

**Active duty**

**Grade or rank**

**Rear admirals**

**Assigned not detailed**

Legislative history of Pub. L. 90-179, which authorized detailing two officers—a Navy officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(b)) and a Marine officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(c))—as Assistant Judge Advocates General of Navy, entitled to rank and grade of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general while so serving, unless entitled to higher rank or grade under another provision of law, evidencing no intent that captain or officer of lesser rank receive pay of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general, as appropriate, the two Navy captains not detailed but assigned as Assistant Judge Advocates General to avoid creating entitlement to flag rank within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 5149(b), having been denied grade of rear admiral (lower half) and its benefits, may not be paid under 37 U.S.C. 202(1) at that grade.-----

22

**Record correction. (See Military Personnel, record correction)**

**Reservists**

**Drill pay increases**

Member of Army National Guard who was on active duty for training on Apr. 15, 1970, whether or not fulfilling his REP 63, term meaning obligation incurred under Reserve Enlistment Program of 1963 to serve on active duty training for period of at least 4 months and to serve in Reserve component until sixth anniversary of date of enlistment, is not entitled to retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills attended subsequent to Dec. 31, 1969, and before Apr. 15, 1970, since both under pertinent provisions of Career Compensation Act and National Guard regulations member of National Guard on full-time training duty cannot be in "drill pay status" while on active duty, and acts of Dec. 16, 1967, and Apr. 15, 1970, only authorize retroactive adjustment in basic pay under 1970 rates if member was in "drill pay status" on Apr. 15, 1970.-----

868

**Subsequent to temporary disability retirement**

**Effect on retired pay**

Air Force officer who was placed on temporary disability retired list in grade of major effective June 1, 1968, recalled under 10 U.S.C. 1211 to active duty in temporary grade of lieutenant colonel for 1 day, June 30,

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Active duty—Continued****Subsequent to temporary disability retirement—Continued****Effect on retired pay—Continued**

1970, with date of rank from July 19, 1968, and then retired for years of service under 10 U.S.C. 8911 in grade of lieutenant colonel effective July 1, 1970, is entitled to payment of difference in retired pay between grades of lieutenant colonel and major for months of June and July 1970, since prior to July 1, 1970, officer satisfied requirements of 10 U.S.C. 1211 (a) (1). The officer's entitlement to retired pay at higher grade for 2 months involved is not under 10 U.S.C. 8963 (a), as he only "served" 1 day in temporary grade, but under 10 U.S.C. 8961, which authorizes officer to retire in grade he "holds" not the grade in which he "served" on date of retirement.-----

677

**Additional****Hazardous duty****Assignment status**

Officers of uniformed services trained in parachute jumping and demolition of explosives, who incident to staff billet assignments evaluate training programs and equipment, entailing observation of actual training exercises by special warfare forces, are not entitled to dual hazardous duty incentive pay provided in 37 U.S.C. 301 unless they are assigned to operational team and actually perform parachute jumping in jump status or perform demolition duty as primary assignment. Mere evaluation or observation of operational team activities does not qualify officers for incentive pay; and in absence of proper orders, any parachute jumping or demolition of explosives actually performed by officers would not entitle them to additional pay-----

425

**Aviation duty****Flight performance evidence****Reservists**

Requirement for submission of monthly flight certificates to support payment of aerial flight pay authorized in 37 U.S.C. 301 (f) for members of Reserve Forces performing inactive-duty training or active-duty training may be discontinued and applicable regulations amended accordingly provided procedures are established which will insure that administrative records are maintained at base level to support payments of flight pay to reservists and will provide adequate basis for subsequent review by U.S. GAO in view of fact that regulations contained in par. 80231 (a) of Dept. of Defense Military Pay and Allowances Entitlements Manual provide that flight pay to reservists shall be governed by provisions and conditions established for regular members and certificates are no longer required for such members-----

813

**Civilian employees. (See Compensation)****Deductions****Pay adjustment upon restoration to duty**

In computation of active duty pay and allowances due an enlisted member of uniformed services incident to correction of military records under 10 U.S.C. 1552 to show that discharge was null and void and that he had remained on active duty until voluntarily retired under 10 U.S.C. 8914, deduction of interim civilian earnings is required, notwithstanding member retired earlier than required by decision of court in 419 F. 2d 714. Moreover, fact that Correction Board's recommendation against off-

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Deductions—Continued****Pay adjustment upon restoration to duty—Continued**

setting interim earnings was administratively approved is without effect as there is no discretionary power to make determinations of specific amounts to be paid pursuant to military records correction since payment depends solely upon proper application of statutes and regulations to facts shown in corrected record.....

180

Payment for period of active duty incident to correction of military records of member of uniformed services is not subject to deduction for unemployment compensation received by member during period between premature discharge from duty and retirement, as rule in 35 Comp. Gen. 241 to effect unemployment compensation is not deductible from back pay of civilian employee restored to duty because of direct refund by employee is for application. Therefore, since unemployment compensation received by member does not come within purview of "interim civilian earnings" for purpose of administrative directive that such earnings are deductible in Correction Board cases, amount of unemployment compensation deducted from pay adjustment made to member is for refund to him.....

180

Disability retired pay. (*See* Pay, retired, disability)

**Drill****Training assemblies****Increases****Retroactive adjustment entitlement**

Member of Army National Guard who was on active duty for training on Apr. 15, 1970, whether or not fulfilling his REP 63, term meaning obligation incurred under Reserve Enlistment Program of 1963 to serve on active duty training for period of at least 4 months and to serve in Reserve component until sixth anniversary of date of enlistment, is not entitled to retroactive increase in basic pay for inactive duty training drills attended subsequent to Dec. 31, 1969, and before Apr. 15, 1970, since both under pertinent provisions of Career Compensation Act and National Guard regulations member of National Guard on full-time training duty cannot be in "drill pay status" while on active duty, and acts of Dec. 16, 1967, and Apr. 15, 1970, only authorize retroactive adjustment in basic pay under 1970 rates if member was in "drill pay status" on Apr. 15, 1970.....

868

**Increases****Comparable to classified employees****Adjustment**

Although members of uniformed services are authorized pay increases by Pub. L. 90-207, dated Dec. 16, 1967, whenever general schedule of compensation for Federal classified employees is increased, Secretary of Defense in implementing Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, under authority of sec. 2(b) of E.O. No. 11525, having determined that member is not entitled to increase pursuant to 1970 act unless he was in active duty status on date of its enactment—Apr. 15, 1970—Naval Reserve officer injured while on active duty for training from Mar. 9 to Mar. 22, 1970, who continues on basis of disability to receive benefits provided by 10 U.S.C. 6148(a) and 37 U.S.C. 204(i), through Apr. 14, 1970, not having been in active duty status on Apr. 15, 1970, is not entitled to retroactive increase.....

99

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Increases—Continued****Comparable to classified employees—Continued****Adjustment—Continued**

Fact that reemployed civilian who while on military furlough served on active military duty was on civilian roll on Apr. 15, 1970, date of enactment of Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, Pub. L. 91-231, does not entitle him under act to retroactive adjustment in basic pay for active military duty performed during period Jan. 1, 1970, through Mar. 15, 1970, as act provides compensation increases for Federal classified employees only. However, although Pub. L. 90-207, Dec. 16, 1967, provides for increase in basic pay for military personnel whenever general schedule of compensation for Federal classified employees is increased, Secretary of Defense in implementing 1970 act pursuant to E.O. No. 11525 prescribed that member must have been on active duty on Apr. 15, 1970, to be entitled to retroactive adjustment in pay-----

226

**Death of member**

Widow and designated beneficiary of Air Force captain held to be in missing in action status from Mar. 28, 1969, until that status was terminated on Mar. 19, 1970, on basis of evidence establishing his death, may be paid increase in basic pay provided by Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, and implemented by E.O. No. 11525, for period Jan. 1, 1970, retroactive effective date of act, through Mar. 19, 1970, absent contrary determination under 37 U.S.C. 556(c) by Secretary of Air Force. While Dept. of Defense Memorandum implementing Executive order permits retroactive increase in pay for any active service performed in case of person "who died" after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, such authority together with sec. 5 of salary act on which it is based is considered to have reference to termination of pay because of death-----

148

**Effective date****Under Executive Order No. 11525**

Member of uniformed services who extended 4-year enlistment on Apr. 14, 1970, under 10 U.S.C. 509 for 26 months effective Apr. 15, 1970, date of issuance of E.O. No. 11525, making new pay rates authorized by Pub. L. 90-207 and Pub. L. 91-231, retroactively effective to Jan. 1, 1970, is entitled to have reenlistment bonus earned under 37 U.S.C. 308(a) computed at new pay rates as Defense Dept. implementation of Executive order, which restricts use of increased rates in computation of reenlistment bonus when entitlement occurs after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, has no application to member who beginning his extended enlistment on Apr. 15, 1970, is entitled to computation of reenlistment bonus under par. 10905 of Defense Military Pay and Allowances Manual -----

36

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Increases—Continued****Retired pay. (See Pay, retired, increases)****Retroactive****Active duty requirement**

Air Force officer subject to mandatory retirement on Jan. 8, 1970, under 10 U.S.C. 8921, and pursuant to Uniform Retirement Date Act, 5 U.S.C. 8301, scheduled to retire Feb. 1, 1970, who was continued on active duty until May 25, 1970, to determine his eligibility for disability retirement under 10 U.S.C. 1201, is not entitled to retired pay computed at increased pay rates prescribed by E. O. No. 11525, dated Apr. 15, 1970, for members on active duty Jan. 1, 1970, in view of restrictions by Secretary of Defense to effect retroactive pay increases do not apply to persons who became entitled to retired or retainer pay after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, prohibition that relates to officer's Jan. 8, 1970, mandatory retirement date. However, for active duty performed before or after Jan. 8, officer is entitled to active duty pay computed at increased rates prescribed in Executive order.-----

258

Air Force officer whose mandatory retirement date under 10 U.S.C. 8916 was Apr. 11, 1970, and pursuant to Uniform Retirement Date Act, 5 U.S.C. 8301, he is retired on May 1, 1970—date that may not be considered because of restrictive provisions of 5 U.S.C. 8301(b), in applying E. O. No. 11525, dated Apr. 15, 1970, which retroactively prescribes pay increases authorized by act of Dec. 16, 1967, and Federal Employees Salary Act of Apr. 15, 1970—is subject to restrictions imposed by Secretary of Defense in implementing order to effect retroactive pay increases do not apply to persons who became entitled to retired or retainer pay after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, and, therefore, officer's retired pay is for computation on basis of active duty pay rate in effect on Apr. 11, 1970, date of his mandatory retirement; but he is entitled for active duty performed after Dec. 31, 1969, to higher pay rate provided by Executive order.-----

258

**Missing, interned, etc., persons****Pay increases**

Widow and designated beneficiary of Air Force captain held to be in missing in action status from Mar. 28, 1969, until that status was terminated on Mar. 19, 1970, on basis of evidence establishing his death, may be paid increase in basic pay provided by Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, and implemented by E. O. No. 11525, for period Jan. 1, 1970, retroactive effective date of act, through Mar. 19, 1970, absent contrary determination under 37 U.S.C. 556(c) by Secretary of Air Force. While Dept. of Defense Memorandum implementing Executive order permits retroactive increase in pay for any active service performed in case of person "who died" after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, such authority together with sec. 5 of salary act on which it is based is considered to have reference to termination of pay because of death.-----

148

**Promotions****Effective date****Record correction effect**

Fact that Correction of Military Records Board on Apr. 11, 1969, directed change of records pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, to show that Air Force captain had not been twice passed over for promotion to temporary

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Promotions—Continued****Effective date—Continued****Record correction effect—Continued**

grade of major, and that if selected for promotion by next regularly scheduled board, promotion was to be effective from date first selection board convened, although at same time denying his request for promotion, does not entitle officer promoted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8442 and 8447(b) on June 27, 1969, effective Feb. 20, 1968, to increased pay prior to June 27, 1969, for until promoted, no date could be established for commencement of higher pay, and Correction Board limited to making changes in existing record, its attempt to control future contingent event of promotion is not within purview of 10 U.S.C. 1552-----

125

**Temporary****Saved pay****Temporary grade pay higher**

Upon acceptance of permanent appointment pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 5579 as ensign in Medical Service Corps, Regular Navy, and termination of temporarily held rank of lieutenant (jg) to which appointed subsequent to serving under permanent appointment as line ensign, officer is not entitled to saved pay, for not having suffered reduction in pay "because of his former permanent status"—also that of ensign—he is unable to meet criteria in 10 U.S.C. 5579(d) for eligibility to have higher pay and allowances received under temporary appointment as lieutenant (jg) saved to him-----

279

**Without effect**

Where disability retirement orders of Air Force major carried out recommendations of Physical Evaluation Board who had found officer permanently disabled and unfit to perform duties of office, promotion of officer to temporary grade of lieutenant colonel within 3 months prior to effective date of retirement was without effect and inconsistent with governing Air Force regulations; and since officer's disability was not discovered as result of physical examination for promotion to bring promotion within purview of 10 U.S.C. 1372(4) and entitle him to retire at higher grade, there is no authority for payment of retired pay to officer computed on grade of lieutenant colonel-----

314

**Readjustment payment to reservists on involuntary release****What constitutes involuntary****Pregnancy**

Under 10 U.S.C. 687(a), member of Reserve component, or member of Army or Air Force without component, who is relieved from active duty "involuntarily," is entitled to readjustment pay, and since it is mandatory under Air Force Reg. 36-12, which establishes procedures governing separation of officers, to discharge woman officer when determination is made by medical officer that she is pregnant, she is considered involuntarily separated and entitled to readjustment pay, whether she is separated with or without her consent, sole determining factor being that of pregnancy. Therefore, Reserve officer separated without her consent by reason of pregnancy who waived hearing and board recommendations in 10 U.S.C. 1163(a), having been involuntarily separated, is entitled to readjustment pay-----

229



**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Rear admirals, etc.**

**Active duty grade or rank.** (*See Pay, active duty, grade or rank, rear admirals*)

**Officers serving as Judge Advocates General**

**Assigned not detailed**

Legislative history of Pub. L. 90-179, which authorized detailing two officers—a Navy officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(b)) and a Marine officer (10 U.S.C. 5149(c))—as Assistant Judge Advocates General of Navy, entitled to rank and grade of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general while so serving, unless entitled to higher rank or grade under another provision of law, evidencing no intent that captain or officer of lesser rank receive pay of rear admiral (lower half) or brigadier general, as appropriate, the two Navy captains not detailed but assigned as Assistant Judge Advocates General to avoid creating entitlement to flag rank within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 5149(b), having been denied grade of rear admiral (lower half) and its benefits, may not be paid under 37 U.S.C. 202(1) at that grade.-----

22

**Record correction.** (*See Military Personnel, record correction*)

**Reservists**

**Drill pay.** (*See Pay, drill*)

**Pay increases**

**Active duty requirement**

Although members of uniformed services are authorized pay increases by Pub. L. 90-207, dated Dec. 16, 1967, whenever general schedule of compensation for Federal classified employees is increased, Secretary of Defense in implementing Federal Employees Salary Act of 1970, under authority of sec. 2(b) of E. O. No. 11525, having determined that member is not entitled to increase pursuant to 1970 act unless he was in active duty status on date of its enactment—Apr. 15, 1970—Naval Reserve officer injured while on active duty for training from Mar. 9 to Mar. 22, 1970, who continues on basis of disability to receive benefits provided by 10 U.S.C. 6148(a) and 37 U.S.C. 204(i), through Apr. 14, 1970, not having been in active duty status on Apr. 15, 1970, is not entitled to retroactive increase.-----

99

**Retired**

**Advancement on retired list**

**Evidence of satisfactory service in another service**

Rule in 49 Comp. Gen. 618 to effect that members of armed services would be entitled to retired pay based on pay of higher grade, whether temporary or permanent, in which member served satisfactorily, even though higher grade was in other than service from which he retired, is equally applicable to Army members, notwithstanding 10 U.S.C. 3963(a), under which members are retired, seems to require that qualifying service be in Army, since that section, as well as 10 U.S.C. 8963(a), involved in ruling, have common legislative source. Under 10 U.S.C. 3963(a), Secretary is authorized to determine qualification for higher pay; and, therefore, there is no objection to administrative settlement of retroactive retired pay due that is not barred by 31 U.S.C. 71a, and 10-year limitation period begins to run after final administrative determination of satisfactory service.-----

536

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued****Advancement on retired list—Continued****Pay adjustment**

Members of uniformed services advanced in grade on retired list without regard to whether their active duty service in higher grade was in temporary or permanent grade or whether satisfactory service was in same service from which retired may be paid adjustments in retired pay from date of retirement, even though required administrative approval of satisfactory service was made more than 10 years subsequent to retirement, for under rule that claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, members' claims for adjustment of their retired pay are not barred by act of Oct. 9, 1940, as 10-year statute of limitation began to run from date of administrative determination of entitlement to higher grade and not date of retirement.-----

607

Since claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, it is not barred until 10 years after administrative determination is made and, therefore, application of act of Oct. 9, 1940, 10-year statute of limitation, does not take effect until secretarial approval of advancement of members on retired list without regard to whether satisfactory active duty service was in permanent or temporary grade, or in service from which retired. Readjustment payments that had been disallowed may be paid administratively, as well as future claims, whether retirement was for disability or under 10 U.S.C. 8964, and notwithstanding member's higher grade was in service from which retired, and order effecting change to higher grade constitutes date of administrative determination of satisfactory service in higher grade when issued on same day as determination-----

607

**Computation****Multiplier credit**

Although inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman time served before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man retiring either for years of service, for age, or for disability, may not be credited for purpose of retirement, service counts for multiplier credit and in accordance with 14 U.S.C. 423, years of service are to be computed under 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), due to fact that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1333 such service is "service (other than active service) in a Reserve component of an armed force." However, full-time credit may not be given inactive service in determining multiplier factor under 14 U.S.C. 423 and 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), since service is subject to computation method provided in 10 U.S.C. 1333(4)-----

308

**Concurrent military retired and civilian severance pay**

Upon reduction in force as civilian employee of U.S., retired member of uniformed services may not be paid severance pay as 1965 authorizing act (5 U.S.C. 5595) excludes payment of severance pay to person subject to Civil Service Retirement Act or any other retirement law or system applicable to Federal officers or employees or members of uniformed services who at time of separation have fulfilled requirements for immediate annuity—a term including retired pay—and prohibition against payment of severance pay is applicable without regard to when

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued**

**Concurrent military retired and civilian severance pay—Continued**  
member first becomes entitled to military retired pay, or whether he is eligible under Dual Compensation Act of 1964 (5 U.S.C. 5531-5534) to receive military retired pay concurrently in whole or in part with compensation of his civilian office or position-----

46

Although civilian position held by retired officer of Regular component of uniformed services in U.S. Army Special Services Agency, Europe—local nonappropriated fund activity—is position subject to reduction of retired pay prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 5532(b), reduction is not required in officer's retired pay as reduction would exceed amount officer receives from civilian employment with additional reduction in retired pay, result that is not within contemplation of Dual Compensation Act of 1964, for it is unreasonable to require retired officer to accept smaller amount after employment in civilian position with Govt. than amount of retired pay he was receiving before that time-----

604

**Concurrent military retired and disability compensation**

**Prohibition**

Conclusion that exemption provision in Dual Compensation Act (5 U.S.C. 5532(c)) to requirement that retired pay of Regular officer must be reduced when employed as civilian by Federal Govt. (5 U.S.C. 5532(b)) applies only if retirement was direct result of armed conflict, or was caused by instrumentality of war in wartime, is justified on basis of legislative history of provision and its longstanding administrative interpretation; and, therefore, *Mross v. United States*, 186 Ct. Cl. 165, holding that disability—perforated eardrum—that was war-incurred but was not disabling and did not constitute significant factor in officer's retirement met requirements of exception to dual compensation restriction will not be followed as case is based on particular facts involved----

480

Regular Air Force sergeant retired pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8914, who while employed as civilian in Federal Govt. loses use of finger, is not entitled to concurrent payment of civilian disability compensation and military retired pay on basis the compensation would be paid for permanent partial disability and not temporary total disability, thus bringing payment within exception to dual payment prohibition contained in 5 U.S.C. 8116(a). In application of limitation in sec. 8116(a), there has been no recognition of distinction between temporary and permanent disability, as statute makes no such distinction insofar as concurrent receipt of military or naval retired pay is concerned, and legislation would have to be enacted to permit concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation-----

491

**Disability**

**Active duty recall**

**Subsequent retirement**

Air Force officer who was placed on temporary disability retired list in grade of major effective June 1, 1968, recalled under 10 U.S.C. 1211 to active duty in temporary grade of lieutenant colonel for 1 day, June 30, 1970, with date of rank from July 19, 1968, and then retired for years of service under 10 U.S.C. 8911 in grade of lieutenant colonel effective July 1, 1970, is entitled to payment of difference in retired pay between grades of lieutenant colonel and major for months of June and July 1970,

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued****Disability—Continued****Active duty recall—Continued****Subsequent retirement—Continued**

since prior to July 1, 1970, officer satisfied requirements of 10 U.S.C. 1211(a)(1). The officer's entitlement to retired pay at higher grade for 2 months involved is not under 10 U.S.C. 8963(a), as he only "served" 1 day in temporary grade, but under 10 U.S.C. 8961, which authorizes officer to retire in grade he "holds" not the grade in which he "served" on date of retirement-----

677

**Disability found prior to eligibility for promotion**

Where disability retirement orders of Air Force major carried out recommendations of Physical Evaluation Board who had found officer permanently disabled and unfit to perform duties of office, promotion of officer to temporary grade of lieutenant colonel within 3 months prior to effective date of retirement was without effect and inconsistent with governing Air Force regulations; and since officer's disability was not discovered as result of physical examination for promotion to bring promotion within purview of 10 U.S.C. 1372(4) and entitle him to retire at higher grade, there is no authority for payment of retired pay to officer computed on grade of lieutenant colonel-----

314

**Disability retirement and promotion simultaneously effective****Computation of retired and severance pay**

Officer of uniformed service whose physical disability was not considered disqualifying prior to physical examination qualifying him for promotion denied by Physical Evaluation Board, upon his subsequent simultaneous transfer as second lieutenant to temporary disability retired list under 10 U.S.C. 1202 and advancement to grade of first lieutenant under cl. (4) of 10 U.S.C. 1372, is entitled to retired pay and disability severance pay computed on basis of higher grade; and since first determination of physical disability did not disqualify officer for service, disqualifying disability for which he was retired may be considered as having been discovered as result of physical examination for promotion within purview of cl. (4) of 10 U.S.C. 1372-----

156

**Physical examination for promotion determination**

Major in Air Force Reserves, who before recommended promotion to grade of lieutenant colonel could take effect was retired under 10 U.S.C. 1201, effective July 9, 1970, with 80-percent disability, and who had undergone two physical examinations, one in connection with "projected voluntary retirement," other incident to disability retirement, is not entitled to retired pay computed at higher grade, as disability for which officer was retired was not found to exist as result of physical examination for promotion within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 1372(3), nor are examinations within purview of *Brandt v. United States*, 155 Ct. Cl. 345, holding that where physical examinations in connection with promotion and retirement are given close together, physical disability can be said to be result of examination for promotion-----

508

**Foreign residence effect**

Air Force master sergeant retired under 10 U.S.C. 8914 with over 20 years of service, who during those years retained Canadian citizenship and returned to Canada to reside when he retired, is entitled to be retired

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued****Foreign residence effect—Continued**

with retired pay as authorized in Formula C, 10 U.S.C. 8991. Member, permitted to enlist as alien and to be sworn in without restrictions pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8253(c), was accepted without restrictions and became "regular enlisted member of Air Force" within purview of 10 U.S.C. 8914, entitled upon retirement to be member of Air Force Reserve with obligation to perform active duty until service credits equal 30 years of both active and inactive service; and, therefore, so long as allegiance status remains unchanged, Canadian residency does not constitute bar to receipt of retired pay-----

269

**Grade, rank, etc., at retirement****Service in higher rank than at retirement**

Rule in 49 Comp. Gen. 618 to effect that members of armed services would be entitled to retired pay based on pay of higher grade, whether temporary or permanent, in which member served satisfactorily, even though higher grade was in other than service from which he retired, is equally applicable to Army members, notwithstanding 10 U.S.C. 3963(a), under which members are retired, seems to require that qualifying service be in Army, since that section, as well as 10 U.S.C. 8963(a), involved in ruling, have common legislative source. Under 10 U.S.C. 3963(a), Secretary is authorized to determine qualification for higher pay; and, therefore, there is no objection to administrative settlement of retroactive retired pay due that is not barred by 31 U.S.C. 71a, and 10-year limitation period begins to run after final administrative determination of satisfactory service-----

586

Members of uniformed services advanced in grade on retired list without regard to whether their active duty service in higher grade was in temporary or permanent grade or whether satisfactory service was in same service from which retired may be paid adjustments in retired pay from date of retirement, even though required administrative approval of satisfactory service was made more than 10 years subsequent to retirement, for under rule that claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, members' claims for adjustment of their retired pay are not barred by act of Oct. 9, 1940, as 10-year statute of limitation began to run from date of administrative determination of entitlement to higher grade and not date of retirement-----

607

Since claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, it is not barred until 10 years after administrative determination is made and, therefore, application of act of Oct. 9, 1940, 10-year statute of limitation, does not take effect until secretarial approval of advancement of members on retired list without regard to whether satisfactory active duty service was in permanent or temporary grade, or in service from which retired. Readjustment payments that had been disallowed may be paid administratively, as well as future claims, whether retirement was for disability or under 10 U.S.C. 8964, and notwithstanding member's higher grade was in service from which retired, and order effecting change to higher grade constitutes date of administrative determination of satisfactory service in higher grade when issued on same day as determination-----

607

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued****Increases****Cost-of-living increases****Active duty recall**

In recomputing retired pay under 10 U.S.C. 1401a and 1402(a) for member of uniformed services who served on active duty for 2 years subsequent to retirement, Consumer Price Index changes should be reflected by increasing retired pay by only percent that applicable base index exceeds index for calendar month immediately preceding month in which active duty pay rate upon which retired pay is based became effective. 48 Comp. Gen. 398 and B-166335, June 4, 1969, modified-----

232

**Entitlement**

Air Force officer subject to mandatory retirement on Jan. 8, 1970, under 10 U.S.C. 8921, and pursuant to Uniform Retirement Date Act, 5 U.S.C. 8301, scheduled to retire Feb. 1, 1970, who was continued on active duty until May 25, 1970, to determine his eligibility for disability retirement under 10 U.S.C. 1201, is not entitled to retired pay computed at increased pay rates prescribed by E. O. No. 11525, dated Apr. 15, 1970, for members on active duty Jan. 1, 1970, in view of restrictions by Secretary of Defense to effect retroactive pay increases do not apply to persons who became entitled to retired or retainer pay after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, prohibition that relates to officer's Jan. 8, 1970, mandatory retirement date. However, for active duty performed before or after Jan. 8, officer is entitled to active duty pay computed at increased rates prescribed in Executive order-----

258

Air Force officer whose mandatory retirement date under 10 U.S.C. 8916 was Apr. 11, 1970, and pursuant to Uniform Retirement Date Act, 5 U.S.C. 8301, he is retired on May 1, 1970—date that may not be considered because of restrictive provisions of 5 U.S.C. 8301(b), in applying E. O. No. 11525, dated April 15, 1970, which retroactively prescribes pay increases authorized by act of Dec. 16, 1967, and Federal Employees Salary Act of Apr. 15, 1970—is subject to restrictions imposed by Secretary of Defense in implementing order to effect retroactive pay increases do not apply to persons who became entitled to retired or retainer pay after Dec. 31, 1969, but before Apr. 15, 1970, and, therefore, officer's retired pay is for computation on basis of active duty pay rate in effect on Apr. 11, 1970, date of his mandatory retirement; but he is entitled for active duty performed after Dec. 31, 1969, to higher pay rate provided by Executive order-----

258

**Reduction****Civilian employment**

Conclusion that exemption provision in Dual Compensation Act (5 U.S.C. 5532(c)) to requirement that retired pay of Regular officer must be reduced when employed as civilian by Federal Govt. (5 U.S.C. 5532(b)) applies only if retirement was direct result of armed conflict, or was caused by instrumentality of war in wartime, is justified on basis of legislative history of provision and its longstanding administrative interpretation; and, therefore, *Mross v. United States*, 186 Ct. Cl. 165, holding that disability—perforated eardrum—that was war-incurred but was not disabling and did not constitute significant factor in officer's retirement met requirements of exception to dual compensation restriction will not be followed as case is based on particular facts involved....

480

**PAY—Continued**

Page

**Retired—Continued**

**Re-retirement**

**Recomputation of retired pay**

In recomputing retired pay under 10 U.S.C. 1401a and 1402(a) for member of uniformed services who served on active duty for 2 years subsequent to retirement, Consumer Price Index changes should be reflected by increasing retired pay by only percent that applicable base index exceeds index for calendar month immediately preceding month in which active duty pay rate upon which retired pay is based became effective. 48 Comp. Gen. 398 and B-166335, June 4, 1969, modified.-----

282

**Retention after age and service qualifications**

**Service credits**

**Basis for retention**

Retention beyond age 60 of Air Force sergeant under par. 140(2) of Air National Guard Regulation 39-10 to permit him to complete 26 years of military service for pay purposes in recognition of "long and distinguished military service" would not satisfy requirement of 10 U.S.C. 676 that Secretary concerned order retention in service for purpose of acquiring additional service credits only if services are military requirement; and sergeant retired under 10 U.S.C. 1331 and 1401, and authorized retired pay on basis of "with over 22 but less than 26 years" of non-Regular service, therefore, is not eligible for retired pay computed at pay rate of over 26 years of military service.-----

428

**Waiver for civilian retirement benefits**

**Revocation**

A retired member of uniformed services whose military service upon retirement from civilian employment is not used to establish civil service annuity eligibility but is only used in computation of annuity to increase amount payable, may withdraw his waiver of retired pay and have pay reinstated as no double benefit would result from same service by terminating use of military service to compute civil service annuity and reinstating retired pay, and 5 U.S.C. 8332(e) provides that civil service retirement does not affect right of employee to retired pay, pension, or compensation in addition to annuity payable upon retirement from Federal civilian service.-----

80

**Saved**

**Temporary promotions**

Upon acceptance of permanent appointment pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 5579 as ensign in Medical Service Corps, Regular Navy, and termination of temporarily held rank of lieutenant (jg) to which appointed subsequent to serving under permanent appointment as line ensign, officer is not entitled to saved pay, for not having suffered reduction in pay "because of his former permanent status"—also that of ensign—he is unable to meet criteria in 10 U.S.C. 5579(d) for eligibility to have higher pay and allowances received under temporary appointment as lieutenant (jg) saved to him.-----

270

**PAY—Continued****Service credits****Page****Inactive time****Coast Guard military personnel**

Inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman time served before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man retiring either for years of service under 14 U.S.C. 291, 292, 354, or 355, for age pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 293 or 353, or for disability as provided in ch. 61, Title 10, U.S. Code, is not allowable for purpose of retirement. Sec. 291, in providing for voluntary retirement of commissioned officers after 20 years of service requires such service to have been "active service," word "service" in secs. 292, 354, and 355, authorizing voluntary retirement for commissioned officers after 30 years, and for enlisted men after 30 or 20 years, has been interpreted since 1948 as "active service," secs. 293 and 353 in providing for compulsory retirement at age 62 make no references to years of service; and under 10 U.S.C. 1208 disability retirement is computed on basis of active service-----

**308**

Although inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman time served before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man retiring either for years of service, for age, or for disability, may not be credited for purpose of retirement, service counts for multiplier credit and in accordance with 14 U.S.C. 423, years of service are to be computed under 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), due to fact that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1333 such service is "service (other than active service) in a reserve component of an armed force." However, full-time credit may not be given inactive service in determining multiplier factor under 14 U.S.C. 423 and 10 U.S.C. 1405(4), since service is subject to computation method provided in 10 U.S.C. 1333(4)-----

**308**

In crediting inactive Naval Reserve cadet or midshipman service performed before July 1949 by Regular Coast Guard officer or enlisted man for retirement purposes, there is no distinction to be drawn between status of "Cadet, MMR, USNR," or "Midshipman, MMR, USNR," inasmuch as persons having either status are regarded as members of U.S. Naval Reserve-----

**308****PAYMENTS****Checks. (See Checks)****Contracts. (See Contracts, payments)****PERSONAL SERVICES****Private contract v. Government personnel****Employment recruiting**

Contracts with District of Columbia Urban Corps, part of D.C. Govt., and similar Urban Corps and other organizations, including profit-making organizations, in other localities may not be entered into by Federal agencies for purpose of recruiting students and dealing with educational institutions because type of services contemplated can be performed more economically and feasibly by their own personnel. Even if contract arrangement were permitted with D.C. Urban Corps, "override" payable would constitute reimbursement to D.C. Govt. that is barred by sec. 601 of Economy Act of 1932 (31 U.S.C. 686); moreover, any payment received would be for deposit into Treasury of U.S. to avoid augmentation of D.C. appropriation used to fund Corps-----

**553**



**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**

Page

**Contracts**

**Labor stipulations**

**Davis-Bacon Act**

Contracts for repainting mailboxes at their stationary positions, work that is regular, continuous and recurring, and is performed in accordance with Post Office Dept.'s Letter Box Maintenance Handbook approximately every 36 months, are subject to Davis-Beacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, an act that is applicable to contracts in excess of \$2,000 for painting and decorating of public buildings and works, whether performed in conjunction with original construction or as regular maintenance, and mailboxes are within contemplation of term "public works," which term encompasses any Govt-owned facility necessary for carrying on community life and to cover any article or structure that is placed, either permanently or temporarily, at particular location to serve public purpose...

720

**Employees**

**Transfers**

**During retroactive period of compensation increases**

Former General Schedule employees of Post Office Dept. who transferred to higher General Schedule position in another agency between Aug. 12, 1970, date of enactment of Postal Reorganization Act, which provides approximately 8-percent salary increase, and effective date of act, first pay period beginning on or after Apr. 16, 1970, are entitled to have "not less than two-step increase" authorized in 5 U.S.C. 5334(b) for employees who are promoted or transferred, computed on revised General Schedule rate of Post Office Dept.; for in absence of specific language to contrary, rule for application is that retroactive salary increases apply as if increase had been in force and effect at time of change of status of employee.....

414

Where agency has policy to extend benefit of highest previous rate rule prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 5334(a), salary of employee who left Post Office Dept. during retroactive period between enactment of Postal Reorganization Act and its effective date may be adjusted to reflect increase authorized by act; and where agency does not have established policy, but did give employee benefit of last Post Office Dept. rate, it is within agency's discretion whether or not to adjust employee's salary to reflect increase in Post Office rate. However, sec. 531.203(d)(4) of Civil Service Commission Regs. relating to general increases in General Schedule and not to special increases, employee who was not on rolls at time of enactment of Reorganization Act may not be given benefit of increased rate for purposes of "highest previous rate" rule.....

414

**Mails**

**Transportation**

**Emergency contracts**

Authority in 49 U.S.C. 1375(h) to use air taxi mail service contracts in event of emergency caused by flood, fire, or other calamitous visitation may not be exercised upon occurrence of any unforeseen event which renders normal mail transportation facilities unavailable, such as sudden loss of RPO train schedule, or unexpected closing of airport runway causing certified air carriers to temporarily suspend service at airport; for under the "ejusdem generis" rule of construction, general words "calamitous visitation" are restricted by particular terms "flood or fire," and term "calamity" supposes continuous state produced by natural

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—Continued**

Page

**Mails—Continued****Transportation—Continued****Emergency contracts—Continued**

causes. Nonconforming existing contracts should be terminated as soon as practicable, and any temporary arrangements made under Postal Reorganization Act should be terminated when emergency ceases.-----

255

**Star route contracts****Readjustment compensation****Method of computation**

The unilateral change by Post Office Dept. from so-called "operating ratio method" to new formula to determine readjustment of compensation under star route contracts pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 6423 whereby increases in profit are governed exclusively by additional capital expenditures incurred through purchase or maintenance of capital goods is not prohibited by statute, and denial of adjustment is not considered dispute concerning question of fact within meaning of "Disputes" clause of contract. Although sec. 6423 gives star route contractor right to ask for readjustment of compensation and to expect reasonable return, Postmaster General has discretionary authority to determine that operating ratio method converts star route contract into undesirable type of cost-plus contract whereby profit is allowed as percentage cost.-----

694

**Strikes****Duty performance by military reservists**

Duties performed by civilian employees who as Reserves of Armed Forces and National Guardsmen were called into active military service pursuant to Presidential Proc. 3972, dated Mar. 23, 1970, to carry out work of striking Postal Service employees are considered military aid to enforce law within meaning of 5 U.S.C. 6323 (c), as military service was performed in order to cause laws relating to Post Office to have force and to protect mail; therefore, employees are entitled because of such service to military leave prescribed by 5 U.S.C. 6323 (c), and their pay should be adjusted to comply with 5 U.S.C. 5519 by crediting military pay against civilian compensation payable to employees.-----

154

**POSTAL SERVICE, UNITED STATES****Appropriations****Transferred from Post Office Department****Status**

Although utilization by Postal Service of obligated and unobligated appropriations available to Post Office Dept. on July 1, 1970, effective date of transition of its functions to Postal Service is permitted under 39 U.S.C. 2002(a) (2), unobligated balances for fiscal year 1970 and prior years that had reverted to Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 701 would require act of Congress to be made available to Postal Service for liquidation of valid obligations. However, 1971 appropriations need not be included in any reappropriation of funds since they had not expired for obligation or reverted to Treasury. Notwithstanding 39 U.S.C. 1005 (e) requires Postal Service to assume obligation to pay for annual leave that accrued to employees before and after transition, since such leave is not chargeable to unexpended balances of prior year appropriations transferred to Service, Federal Govt. pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 2002(a) (2) is liable for payments.-----

863

**POSTAL SERVICE, UNITED STATES—Continued**

Page

**Authority**

**Relieve, compromise, or settle relief cases**

The new sec. 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b), which places responsibility to relieve, compromise, or otherwise settle relief cases concerning Postal matters in Postal Service and removes U.S. GAO from process does not have effect of setting aside decisions already made by GAO on relief matters under 31 U.S.C. 82a-1 or 39 U.S.C. 2401. Although procedural or remedial statutes such as 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) are not subject to general rule against retroactive application and they apply to all accrued, pending, and future actions, steps already taken, pleadings, and all things done under old law stand, unless contrary intent is manifested. Since change in procedural law does not operate retroactively, new authority of 39 U.S.C. 2601 (b) does not extend to affect, change, or modify actions taken by GAO on postal relief matters prior to effective date of section-----

731

**Postal Reorganization Act**

**Employee salary increases**

"Highest previous salary rule." (See Compensation, postal service, rates, highest previous rate, Postal Reorganization Act increases)

**Rural mail carriers**

**Equipment maintenance allowance**

**"Scheduled" work requirement**

Equipment maintenance allowance to rural mail carriers authorized under 39 U.S.C. 3543 (f) would not be payable to carriers on five Monday national holidays established by Pub. L. 90-363, approved June 28, 1968, if carriers were not scheduled to work on those days and so notified in advance. Applying construction of act of Feb. 28, 1925, former similar authority for paying allowance, to effect allowance is payable "in the same manner as payment for regular compensation" and on basis of miles "scheduled," it follows U.S. Postal Service is not required to pay allowance if rural mail carriers are notified in advance that they will not be scheduled or required to deliver mail on their routes on particular day when they otherwise normally would do so-----

735

**PROPERTY**

**Public**

**Damage, loss, etc.**

**Freight charges**

**Delivery accomplishment**

Freight charges claimed on overseas shipment that moved under GBL identifying shipment as frozen foods and which was refused at destination when it was discovered shipment contained meat as vessel had made several stops at ports considered to be infected areas for meat products, may not be allowed, even though part of shipment was returned to origin point in U.S., meat having been jettisoned at sea because its return was prohibited under Dept. of Agriculture regulation, as Consignee's Certificate of Delivery on GBL was not and could not have been accomplished without delivery of shipment—condition precedent to liability for freight charges-----

164

**Recovery disposition**

Moneys received from carriers by National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) in settlement for goods lost or damaged in transit that were shipped in connection with operations of Administration should be

**PROPERTY—Continued**

Page

**Public—Continued****Damage, loss, etc.—Continued****Recovery disposition—Continued**

deposited for credit to account of Administration and not general fund of Treasury since miscellaneous receipts rule (31 U.S.C. 484) is not for application, as operating funds of NCUA are not provided by annual appropriations but by fees and assessments upon credit unions pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1755, which provides for deposit of collections from credit unions with Treasurer of U.S. for credit to account of Administration---

545

**Private use****Authority**

Lease of land adjacent to Visitors' Information Center at John F. Kennedy Center, Fla., for construction of nondenominational chapel from funds raised by public subscription is pursuant to Art. IV, sec. 3, cl. 2 of Constitution of U.S., a congressional and not executive function, unless otherwise specifically provided by statute, and leasing authority in sec. 203(b)(3) National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2473(b)(3)), does not appear to be intended as specific authority for execution of proposed 30-year lease. Therefore, because of nature of its use, land within Federal enclave should not be leased without congressional approval of chapel construction, and payment of annual rental has no significance in considering lack of specific authority to lease land-----

63

**Services furnished by municipalities**

Service charge levied on each ton of refuse deposited at county incinerator by Federal agencies or their contractors, which is not imposed on residents or non-Federal tax-exempt users including State agencies where cost of operation and maintenance of incinerator is borne by general tax revenues and county's authority to levy tax is doubtful, is in nature of tax to which U.S. is immune; and placement of U.S. in separate category from other property tax-exempt entities for purpose of imposing charge is unreasonable and discriminatory classification on the part of county and, therefore, payment of charge is unauthorized. However, payment of charge may continue to be made under contracts including charge and providing for refund upon resolution of matter-----

343

**Surplus****Disposition. (See Sales)****PUBLIC LANDS****Acquisition****Subway construction**

In development of rail rapid transit system, Board of Directors of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority—instrumentality created by Compact with consent of Congress—may acquire lands under administration of National Park Service of Dept. of Interior, and should cash be paid for appraised value of parklands, cash is for deposit into Treasury in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 484. However, if congressional approval is sought to use money to replace surface parklands, amount received by Dept. may be held in escrow for period not to exceed 2 years. Furthermore, under provisions of Compact, Board has authority to purchase land to replace surface parklands needed for transit purposes----

159

**QUARTERS ALLOWANCE**

Page

**Dependents**

**Quarters occupancy prevented by "competent authority"**

Although par. 30221 of the Dept. of Defense Pay and Allowances Entitlements Manual and 37 U.S.C. 403(d) provide for payment of basic allowance for quarters when because of orders by competent authority the dependents of member of uniformed services are prevented from occupying assigned quarters, where Govt. arranges for movement of household goods of Army officer to family type quarters designated adequate and move is not accomplished by effective date stated in assignment order, payment of basic allowance for quarters with dependents to officers may not be continued beyond effective date of quarters assignment as transportation contract does not constitute "competent authority" required to create entitlement to allowance after effective date of assignment.-----

174

**REAL PROPERTY**

**Acquisition**

**Owners, etc., moving expenses**

**Statute of limitation for claiming**

Requirement in Pub. L. 85-433, May 29, 1958, that claim for moving expenses incurred incident to conveying lands to U.S., supported by itemized statement of expenses, losses, and damage, must be "submitted to the Secretary within one year from date upon which the premises involved are vacated" is unambiguous and not subject to construction and, therefore, neither expenses incurred before expiration of year and not claimed, nor additional expenses incurred after expiration of statutory period may be reimbursed. However, persons displaced after Jan. 2, 1971, by acquisition of real property by U.S. should be compensated for moving and related expenses under Pub. L. 91-646, which replaces 1958 act and provides for head of each Federal agency to establish regulations and procedures to implement act.-----

822

When decision of Comptroller General contains instructions for corrective action in regard to departmental policy, Secretary concerned is required under sec. 236 of Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, 84 Stat. 1140, 1171, to submit written statements as to action taken not later than 60 days after date of decision to Committees of Govt. Operations of both houses and to Committees on Appropriations in connection with request for appropriations made more than 60 days after date of decision, action that Dept. of Interior is required to take incident to recommendation that Bur. of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife correct its Realty Manual to reflect proper application of Statute of Limitation in Pub. L. 85-433 regarding submission of expenses incurred in moving from lands acquired by U.S.-----

822

**Surplus Government property**

**Sale**

**Price sufficiency**

Withdrawal of opportunity afforded high bidder to increase its bid for purchase of Govt. real property which was submitted in amount less than estimated value of property and rejection of bid upon receipt of late higher bid in excess of appraised value of property where late delivery of bid sent by special delivery certified airmail was due solely to delay in

**REAL PROPERTY—Continued**

Page

**Surplus Government property—Continued****Sale—Continued****Price sufficiency—Continued**

mails for which bidder was not responsible was in accord with procedure prescribed in sec. 101-47, 305-1 of Title 41, Code of Federal Regs. which governs disposal of surplus real property, and award made to highest bidder will not be disturbed, and it is immaterial that displaced high bidder had been advised to hand carry its bid to insure timely delivery and was not given advance notice of sale-----

815

**REGULATIONS****Implementing procedures****Monroney Amendment****Wage adjustments**

In retroactive application of Monroney Amendment wage schedule, 5 U.S.C. 5341(c), pursuant to U.S. Civil Service Bulletin No. 532-9, dated Sept. 23, 1970, when comparison of individual wage payments evidences previous wage schedule payments were less than employee is entitled to under Monroney Amendment, employee should be paid difference; and if previous payment was greater than amount due under amendment, employee may retain difference. However, where comparison of individual payments shows that underpayments equal over payments, no payment is due employee-----

495

**RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS**

(See Military Personnel, Reserve Officers' Training Corps)

**RETIREMENT****Civilian****Service credits****Military service****Effect on social security benefits**

When retired member of uniformed services employed as civilian becomes eligible for old age and survivor insurance benefits under Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 402, withdrawal of his waiver of military pay and exclusion of his military service from computation of his civil service annuity would not result in payment of double benefit if military service had not been used to establish civil service annuity eligibility but was used only in computation of annuity amount payable-----

80

**Waiver of retired pay**

A retired member of uniformed services whose military service upon retirement from civilian employment is not used to establish civil service annuity eligibility but is only used in computation of annuity to increase amount payable, may withdraw his waiver of retired pay and have pay reinstated as no double benefit would result from same service by terminating use of military service to compute civil service annuity and reinstating retired pay, and 5 U.S.C. 8332(e) provides that civil service retirement does not affect right of employee to retired pay, pension, or compensation in addition to annuity payable upon retirement from Federal civilian service-----

80

**RIGHTS, VESTED *v.* DISCRETIONARY**

Page

**Military matters**

**Retroactive orders**

Treatment of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, located 40 miles apart, as one installation with one staff which resulted in movement of military and civilian personnel freely between both installations without competent orders and directing permanent change-of-station or performance of temporary duty may not be corrected by issuance of retroactive orders to confirm assignments and authorize travel allowances for temporary duty or permanent change-of-station allowances incident to assignments, even though for purposes of Joint Travel Regs., installations are considered different stations since retroactive orders would be without effect to change vested rights of personnel involved.-----

803

**Statutory amendments**

**Retroactive application**

**Rule**

The 1970 amendment to Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1968, which makes clear that personnel compensation limitations only apply to restrict use of grant funds for payment of police and other regular law-enforcement personnel and not to support services, may be retroactively applied to unobligated and unspent block grants awarded for fiscal years 1969 and 1970 on matching basis by Law Enforcement Assistance Administration under 1968 act to States for subgranting, as well as to "discretionary" grants made to States or directly to cities and counties, as rule against retroactive application of Statutes—absent clear intent to the contrary—pertains to enactment that would prejudicially affect vested rights, or legal character of past transactions, whereas 1969 and 1970 fiscal year grant funds committed by Govt. are yet to be obligated by States.-----

750

**ROADS AND TRAILS**

(*See* Highways)

**SALES**

**Bids**

**Identical**

Awards made under sales invitation for bids on basis of lots drawn by three bidders who had submitted identical bids because there was no other evidence of collusive bidding, where Justice Dept. had taken no action on report of receipt of identical bids, and bid prices submitted were reasonable, were not proper, even though provisions of DOD Manual 4160.21-M were followed. Although awards will not be disturbed, steps should be taken to obtain in future surplus sales the full and unrestricted competition contemplated by competitive bidding system and to avoid acceptance of reasonable bid prices as substitute for adequate competition; and if circumstances do not permit reasonable determination that price competition was adequate, sales should be resolicited.---

382

**Late**

**Bidder not responsible**

Withdrawal of opportunity afforded high bidder to increase its bid for purchase of Govt. real property which was submitted in amount less than estimated value of property and rejection of bid upon receipt of late higher bid in excess of appraised value of property where late delivery of bid sent by special delivery certified airmail was due solely to

**SALES—Continued**

Page

**Bids—Continued****Late—Continued****Bidder not responsible—Continued**

delay in mails for which bidder was not responsible was in accord with procedure prescribed in sec. 101-47, 305-1 of Title 41, Code of Federal Regs. which governs disposal of surplus real property, and award made to highest bidder will not be disturbed, and it is immaterial that displaced high bidder had been advised to hand carry its bid to insure timely delivery and was not given advance notice of sale-----

S15

**Mistakes****“Apparent on face of bid” requirement**

Bid on surplus steel bars offering unit and extended prices that were incompatible with footage shown in sales invitation, and which was verified as intending to buy steel at total bid price reflected in bid, thus making it highest bid received, may not be accepted. While both DSAM Disposal Manual and par. 2-406.2 of Armed Services Procurement Reg. authorize correction of clerical mistake “apparent on the face of the bid,” since error could have occurred in either unit or bid price, mistake is not apparent, as intended bid cannot be ascertained from bid itself; and bid correction, even if pecuniarily advantageous to Govt., would be harmful to competitive system-----

497

**Disclaimer of warranty****Erroneous description****Relief generally**

Under invitations for bids to dispose of surplus property on “as is” and “where is” basis, bidders advised that estimated weight of items offered were not guaranteed and urged to inspect property are not entitled to price adjustment for weight shortages if descriptive information used by holding activity was best available, or if not available, weight estimate was based on visual inspection of property because it would not have been feasible to weigh individual items. However, relief may be granted where contracting officer had actual or constructive notice of misdescription before award, or holding activity unexplainedly almost tripled weight which had been accurately shown in rough draft of sales writeup -----

28

**Property descriptions****Rule**

Rule to be derived from past decisions of Comptroller General relating to claims for alleged misdescription of surplus property where no guarantee provisions were incorporated in invitation is that holding authority, including property disposal officer, should be held to use of best information available, accuracy of which may be relied on if not internally inconsistent, but if information is contradictory or inconsistent, holding activity has duty to select on some reasonable basis descriptive information to be used. If no information is available, holding activity has duty to develop description of property on reasonable basis, taking into consideration circumstances and effort in relation to probable value. Errors in judgment or typographical errors by holding activity would not *per se* violate rule-----

28

**Real property. (See Real property, surplus Government property, sale)**



**SAVINGS DEPOSITS**

Page

**Retroactive deposits**

**Military personnel**

**Administrative error adjustments**

**Missing, interned, etc., persons**

Additional amounts due missing member of uniformed services not as result of correction of records pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1552, but simply because amounts due were not credited through administrative oversight, may be retroactively deposited in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)) commensurate with date deposit accrued, for it would be contrary to congressional intent in enacting Savings Deposit Program to prevent deposits from being made as they accrued merely because of administrative errors-----

718

**Record correction adjustments**

**Missing, interned, etc., persons**

When as result of correction of records under 10 U.S.C. 1552 member of uniformed services in missing status becomes entitled to item of pay or allowance retroactively, amount due member may be deposited retroactively in Uniformed Services Savings Deposit Program established by Pub. L. 90-122 (10 U.S.C. 1035(e)), in same manner as if his original records had shown same information contained in corrected records, and record as corrected should show amounts and dates of all deposits made pursuant to corrected record-----

718

**SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM**

**Boards**

**Employees**

**Status**

Executive secretaries of local Selective Service boards who are given career or career-conditional appointments with 10-year time limitation, subject to reappointment for another 10-year term, separation, or reassignment to another position pursuant to 50 U.S. C. App. 460(b) (4), hold positions of permanent continuing nature and their appointments are considered to be in competitive service, making them eligible upon termination of their employment to severance pay provided under 5 U.S.C. 5595(a) (2) for temporary relief of employees separated from Federal service since exclusion of employees serving under appointment with "definite time limitation" from entitlement to severance pay does not apply to executive secretaries-----

726

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**Coverage**

**Retired military personnel**

**Employment by Federal Government**

When retired member of uniformed services employed as civilian becomes eligible for old age and survivor insurance benefits under Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 402, withdrawal of his waiver of military pay and exclusion of his military service from computation of his civil service annuity would not result in payment of double benefit if military service had not been used to establish civil service annuity eligibility but was used only in computation of annuity amount payable-----

80

**STATES**

Page

**Federal aid, grants, etc.****Restrictions imposed by law****Removal****Retroactive application**

The 1970 amendment to Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1968, which makes clear that personnel compensation limitations only apply to restrict use of grant funds for payment of police and other regular law-enforcement personnel and not to support services, may be retroactively applied to unobligated and unspent block grants awarded for fiscal years 1969 and 1970 on matching basis by Law Enforcement Assistance Administration under 1968 act to States for subgranting, as well as to "discretionary" grants made to States or directly to cities and counties, as rule against retroactive application of Statutes—absent clear intent to the contrary—pertains to enactment that would prejudicially affect vested rights, or legal character of past transactions, whereas 1969 and 1970 fiscal year grant funds committed by Govt. are yet to be obligated by States -----

750

**Municipalities****Services to Federal Government****Payment based on *quantum* of services**

Reasonable charge by political subdivision based on *quantum* of direct service furnished, and which is applied equally to all property tax-exempt entities, need not be considered tax against U.S., even though services are furnished to taxpayers without direct charge, provided political subdivision is not required by law to furnish service involved without direct charge to all located within its boundaries, such as fire and police protection.-----

343

**Service charge v. tax**

Service charge levied on each ton of refuse deposited at county incinerator by Federal agencies or their contractors, which is not imposed on residents or nonfederal tax-exempt users including State agencies, where cost of operation and maintenance of incinerator is borne by general tax revenues and county's authority to levy tax is doubtful, is in nature of tax to which U.S. is immune; and placement of U.S. in separate category from other property tax-exempt entities for purpose of imposing charge is unreasonable and discriminatory classification on the part of county and, therefore, payment of charge is unauthorized. However, payment of charge may continue to be made under contracts including charge and providing for refund upon resolution of matter.-----

343

**Taxes. (See Taxes, State)****STATION ALLOWANCES****Military personnel****Excess living costs outside United States, etc.****Dependents' absences**

When member of uniformed services remains at permanent duty station outside U.S. while one or more of dependents returns to U.S. for visit, cost-of-living allowance adjustment required by par. M4301-3c (1), items 1, 2, and 3 of Joint Travel Regs. may be waived if absence is for 30 days or less, and paragraph amended accordingly. 37 U.S.C. 405, which authorizes consideration of cost-of-living element in prescribing payment of per diem, indicates no requirement to adjust cost-of-living

**STATION ALLOWANCES—Continued**

Page

**Military personnel—Continued****Excess living costs outside United States, etc.—Continued****Dependents' absences—Continued**

allowances during absence of member's dependents for short periods; and waiver of adjustment would be in harmony with regulations implementing cost-of-living allowances provided by sec. 221 of Overseas Differential and Allowances Act, 5 U.S.C. 5924, for civilian employees of Govt -----

386

**Temporary lodgings****Advance return of dependents from overseas**

Temporary lodging allowance payable to member of uniformed services on basis he incurs more than normal expenses for use of hotel accommodations and public restaurants for prescribed period immediately preceding departure from overseas station on permanent change of station may not be authorized incident to advance return of member's dependents under 37 U.S.C. 406(e) and (h), as temporary lodging allowance is permanent station allowance that may not be used to supplement transportation allowances prescribed by subsecs. 406(e) and (h) for movement of dependents, baggage, and household effects in unusual or emergency circumstances, or when Secretary concerned determines movement is in best interest of member, his dependents, or U.S. without regard to issuance of change-of-station orders.-----

83

**Delayed departure no fault of member or dependents**

Additional temporary lodging allowance provided by par. M4303-2e(2), Joint Travel Regs., when departure of member with dependents from overseas duty station is delayed beyond 10-day period of entitlement through no fault of member or dependents, should not have been paid to member whose departure was delayed awaiting court-martial proceedings, since charges of misconduct against member established prima facie that he was not without fault for delay. Therefore, there was no entitlement to allowance for period during which charges were pending, and member would be eligible to receive allowance only if exonerated from blame. However, having been found guilty—and it is immaterial if charges were made in civil action or under Uniform Code of Military Justice—erroneous allowance payments would be for recoupment but for fact administrative regulations were not clear.-----

537

**STATUTES OF LIMITATION****Claims****Date of accrual****Administrative determinations**

Since claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, it is not barred until 10 years after administrative determination is made and, therefore, application of act of Oct. 9, 1940, 10-year statute of limitation, does not take effect until secretarial approval of advancement of members on retired list without regard to whether satisfactory active duty service was in permanent or temporary grade, or in service from which retired. Readjustment payments that had been disallowed may be paid administratively, as well as future claims, whether retirement was for disability or under 10 U.S.C. 8964, and notwithstanding member's higher grade was in service from

## STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION—Continued

Page

## Claims—Continued

## Date of accrual—Continued

## Administrative determinations—Continued

which retired, and order effecting change to higher grade constitutes date of administrative determination of satisfactory service in higher grade when issued on same day as determination-----

607

## Retired pay

Members of uniformed services advanced in grade on retired list without regard to whether their active duty service in higher grade was in temporary or permanent grade or whether satisfactory service was in same service from which retired may be paid adjustments in retired pay from date of retirement, even though required administrative approval of satisfactory service was made more than 10 years subsequent to retirement, for under rule that claim which by statute is not payable until its validity is determined by designated agency does not accrue until determination of validity has been made, members' claims for adjustment of their retired pay are not barred by act of Oct. 9, 1940, as 10-year statute of limitation began to run from date of administrative determination of entitlement to higher grade and not date of retirement-----

607

## Expiration of statutory period of limitation

## Claimants interests protected

Claims for 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates that are presented to Corps of Engineers by civilian wage board employees who performed 24-hour tours of duty on dredges and other floating plants, receiving compensation for only 8 hours of work on straight-time basis may be paid, if properly documented, by Corps on basis of two-thirds rule in *Detling* and *France* consolidated cases, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970). However, doubtful claims should be forwarded for settlement to Claims Division of U.S. GAO pursuant to 4 GAO 5.1, and when 10-year limitation act of Oct. 9, 1940 is involved and claims cannot be promptly approved and paid in full amount claimed, they should be forwarded to Claims Division for recording under 4 GAO 7.1, and after recording claims will be returned to Corps for payment, denial, or referral back to GAO for adjudication-----

767

## STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION

## Court interpretation

## Effect

In sale for scrapping of vessels from national defense fleet, secs. 5 and 6 of Merchant Marine Act of 1920, affording preference to U.S. citizens, remain in effect and are applicable to sales for scrapping or otherwise, for notwithstanding secs. 508 and 510(j) of 1936 Merchant Marine Act authorizing sale of surplus vessels contain no preference provisions, Maritime Administration continued to accord preference to U.S. citizens, and addition of sec. 510(j) to 1936 act by amendment in 1965 did not repeal preference aspects of 1920 act by implication, an interpretation in accord with *Amell v. United States*, 384 U.S. 158. Furthermore, histories of 1936 act and 1965 amendment do not indicate intent to deprive domestic firms of preference obtained under 1920 act-----

167

## "Ejusdem generis" rule

Authority in 49 U.S.C. 1375(h) to use air taxi mail service contracts in event of emergency caused by flood, fire, or other calamitous visitation

## STATUTES OF LIMITATION—Continued

Page

## "Ejusdem generis" rule—Continued

may not be exercised upon occurrence of any unforeseen event which which renders normal mail transportation facilities unavailable, such as sudden loss of RPO train schedule, or unexpected closing of airport runway causing certified air carriers to temporarily suspend service at airport; for under the "ejusdem generis" rule of construction, general words "calamitous visitation" are restricted by particular terms "flood or fire," and term "calamity" supposes continuous state produced by natural causes. Nonconforming existing contracts should be terminated as soon as practicable, and any temporary arrangements made under Postal Reorganization Act should be terminated when emergency ceases.

255

## Language of statute unambiguous

Requirement in Pub. L. 85-433, May 29, 1958, that claim for moving expenses incurred incident to conveying lands to U.S., supported by itemized statement of expenses, losses, and damage, must be "submitted to the Secretary within one year from date upon which the premises involved are vacated" is unambiguous and not subject to construction and, therefore, neither expenses incurred before expiration of year and not claimed, nor additional expenses incurred after expiration of statutory period may be reimbursed. However, persons displaced after Jan. 2, 1971, by acquisition of real property by U.S. should be compensated for moving and related expenses under Pub. L. 91-646, which replaces 1958 act and provides for head of each Federal agency to establish regulations and procedures to implement act.

822

## "Plain meaning" rule

When giving effect to plain meaning of words in statute leads to absurd or unreasonable result clearly at variance with policy of legislation as whole, purpose of statute rather than its literal words will be followed.

604

## STATUTORY PROHIBITIONS

## Grants-in-aid funds

## Retroactive removal of prohibitions

The 1970 amendment to Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1968, which makes clear that personnel compensation limitations only apply to restrict use of grant funds for payment of police and other regular law-enforcement personnel and not to support services, may be retroactively applied to unobligated and unspent block grants awarded for fiscal years 1969 and 1970 on matching basis by Law Enforcement Assistance Administration under 1968 act to States for subgranting, as well as to "discretionary" grants made to States or directly to cities and counties, as rule against retroactive application of Statutes—absent clear intent to the contrary—pertains to enactment that would prejudicially affect vested rights, or legal character of past transactions, whereas 1969 and 1970 fiscal year grant funds committed by Govt. are yet to be obligated by States.

750

**STORAGE**

Page

Household effects

Military personnel

Temporary storage

Release from active duty

Member of uniformed services who was retired at last duty station in Europe, and incident to selecting Australia as future home had household effects crated and temporarily stored at Govt. expense at old duty station to which he shortly returned from Australia and then had goods redelivered to quarters, is pursuant to par. M8100 of Joint Travel Regs. indebted for charges erroneously paid by Govt. However, since temporary storage costs are member's responsibility, he is entitled under par. M8260-1 of regulations incident to retirement orders to shipment of effects to U.S. within prescribed weight and 1-year period limitations, any excess cost over cost that would have been incurred in shipment of effects to home of selection in Australia to be paid by member-----

431

**SUBSIDIES**

Vessels. (See Maritime Matters, subsidies)

**SUBSISTENCE**

Per diem

In lieu of subsistence

Claim for per diem by postal employee in lieu of subsistence in connection with use of truck-camper instead of hotel or motel room while on field assignment may be paid pursuant to sec. 6.2(e) of Standardized Govt. Travel Regs. which provides for per diem allowance for travel by means of privately owned trailer, for although truck-camper is not trailer it is temporary living unit and may, therefore, be viewed as within regulations for purposes of approving per diem allowance, and allowance not having been approved in advance may under regulation be post approved-----

647

Military personnel

Temporary duty

At home port of submarine off-duty crew

Naval officer detached from duty aboard vessel who pending separation is placed on temporary duty with Commander, Submarine Flotilla Two, which although at home base has flagship, and assigned to ashore staff position at home port of off-crew of submarine may be paid per diem since temporary duty was not performed aboard Govt. vessel within meaning of par. M4250-8 of Joint Travel Regs. Assignment of flagship is of no consequence since temporary duty was performed ashore, and fact that temporary duty location was at home port of off-crew, or that no additional subsistence cost was incurred by member, does not affect entitlement as temporary duty was not in connection with training and rehabilitation of crew, and per diem is commutation of expenses payable regardless of expenses incurred-----

723

En route to new duty station

Marine officer detached from permanent duty station who before reporting to permanent overseas duty station is ordered to perform temporary duty at location approximately 6 miles from his residence located at old station where he continued to reside as no Govt. quarters were available at temporary duty station may be paid per diem for period of temporary duty since privately procured quarters at or in vicinity of

**SUBSISTENCE—Continued**

Page

**Per diem—Continued****Military personnel—Continued****Temporary duty—Continued****En route to new duty station—Continued**

member's duty station are to be regarded as part of his station only by reason of assignment at that station. Therefore, officer detached from permanent duty station entered travel status when he proceeded to temporary duty station outside corporate limits of old station and is entitled to per diem for period of temporary duty performed en route to new permanent station, notwithstanding he traveled daily from old residence. 35 Comp. Gen. 547, modified-----

729

Chief warrant officer who is detached from duty station at Hunter Army Airfield and assigned to duty overseas with temporary duty en route at Fort Stewart—both locations within 40-mile radius and considered two different duty stations under Joint Travel Regs. As they are established subdivisions with definite boundaries, even though administered as single post with single command and staff—is not entitled to travel allowance for commuting daily by privately owned automobile from residence to temporary duty station since there was no official necessity for return to old duty station and there is no evidence warrant officer could not obtain lodgings at temporary duty station, but he is entitled to per diem on basis he entered travel status day he reported for temporary duty, notwithstanding he continued to occupy his old residence-----

803

**Firefighting**

As members of uniformed services ordered to proceed on temporary duty in Govt. vehicles to assist Forest Service in firefighting, whether they sleep in Govt. or personal sleeping bags, in vehicles, on ground without sleeping bags, on floors of warehouses and similar structures, or do not sleep on certain nights because of duty performance, are not performing type duty identified as maneuvers, joint field exercises, Reserve training encampments, and similar activities, payment of per diem to them is governed by par. M4205-6 of Joint Travel Regs., and members who were not charged for meals or sleeping facilities provided by Forest Service nor who did not occupy commercial facilities, are entitled for each day of temporary duty, to per diem of \$2.50 and \$3.10 for each meal not furnished, rates prescribed by regulation-----

773

**Temporary duty****Aboard submarines vessels, etc.**

Civilian employees periodically assigned to perform temporary duty aboard Govt. vessels to conduct oceanographic and hydrographic surveys, who are at sea 25 to 28 days and in port 5 to 7 days and are paid per diem in accordance with par. C8101-2d of Vol. 2 of Joint Travel Regs., may not be required to occupy quarters aboard vessel during periods exceeding 3 days in port, nor may per diem be reduced because of availability of quarters aboard ship in absence of actual use of quarters, or determination by proper authority under par. C1057-3 that exigencies of service require that employees occupy quarters aboard vessel while in port-----

388

**SUBSISTENCE—Continued**

Page

**Per diem—Continued****Travel by trailer, truck-camper, etc.**

Claim for per diem by postal employee, in lieu of subsistence in connection with use of truck-camper instead of hotel or motel room while on field assignment may be paid pursuant to sec. 6.2(e) of Standardized Govt. Travel Regs. which provides for per diem allowance for travel by means of privately owned trailer, for although truck-camper is not trailer it is temporary living unit and may, therefore, be viewed as within regulations for purposes of approving per diem allowance, and allowance not having been approved in advance may under regulation be post approved.

647

**SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE****Military personnel****Reserve Officers' Training Corps****Rifle and pistol team competition**

Since participation of members of Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in rifle and pistol team competition matches is neither military training nor part of ROTC curriculum, but participation is performed on voluntary extracurricular activity basis, to provide allowances to members participating in National Matches, they may be considered to have same status as civilians within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 4313 so as to entitle them to travel allowance of \$0.05 a mile and subsistence allowance of \$1.50 a day, and authority in 10 U.S.C. 4308(a) (8) may be invoked to provide allowances for participation in regional and international matches if Secretary of Army upon recommendation of National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice approves issuance of regulations to this effect

783

**SUNDAYS**

(See Holidays, Sundays)

**TAXES****Federal****Joint returns****Status**

Liability for proceeds of income tax refund check bearing only initials of husband and wife still married but separated at time of endorsement by husband and deposited in joint account with his mother, whose initials were similar to wife's, is for determination by Federal and not State law in interest of uniformity. Although use of initials did not facilitate forgery and ordinarily cashing bank would be required to refund one-half of check, as in "same name cases," reclamation proceedings against bank are not required since joint income tax is treated as return of single individual and payment to husband as one of joint obligees extinguished liability of Govt. for tax overpayment, and ownership rights of spouses are for determination by local law in appropriate proceedings.

441



**TAXES—Continued**

Page

**State**

**Constitutionality**

**Assessment v. service charge**

Service charge levied on each ton of refuse deposited at county incinerator by Federal agencies or their contractors, which is not imposed on residents or non-Federal tax-exempt users including State agencies, where cost of operation and maintenance of incinerator is borne by general tax revenues and county's authority to levy tax is doubtful, is in nature of tax to which U.S. is immune; and placement of U.S. in separate category from other property tax-exempt entities for purpose of imposing charge is unreasonable and discriminatory classification on the part of county and, therefore, payment of charge is unauthorized. However, payment of charge may continue to be made under contracts including charge and providing for refund upon resolution of matter...

343

Reasonable charge by political subdivision based on *quantum* of direct service furnished, and which is applied equally to all property tax-exempt entities, need not be considered tax against U.S., even though services are furnished to taxpayers without direct charge, provided political subdivision is not required by law to furnish service involved without direct charge to all located within its boundaries, such as fire and police protection.....

343

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Air Carriers**

**Rates**

**Special**

Use of reduced Category Z fares offered by commercial airlines to U.S. under Govt. Transportation Requests (GTRs) pursuant to tariffs filed with Civil Aeronautics Board is limited by agreement to transportation payable from public funds for official travel only, and special fares may not be made available to contractor employees or nonappropriated fund agencies in Europe or elsewhere, whether payment is made from nonappropriated funds, or appropriated funds on reimbursable basis. Restrictions on use of GTRs prescribed in GAO Policy and Procedures Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, Title 5, secs. 2020.10 and 2020.80 maintain integrity of travel appropriation obligations, and GTRs serve to identify that travel performed was on official business in accord with special arrangements for reduced fares and, therefore, Army regulations in conflict with purpose of Category Z fares should be amended.....

748

**Automobiles**

**Military personnel**

**Advance shipments**

Shipment of privately owned vehicles prior to receipt of permanent change-of-station orders by members of uniformed services may be authorized on basis the phrase "ordered to make a change of permanent station" in 10 U.S.C. 2634(a), authority for transportation of motor vehicles, is identical to phrase used in 37 U.S.C. 406(a) to authorize transportation of member's dependents, pursuant to which par. M7000, item 8, of Joint Travel Regs. (JTR) provides for transportation of dependents in advance of orders when supported by certificate by appropriate authority stating that member was advised prior to issuance

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued****Page****Automobiles—Continued****Military personnel—Continued****Advance shipments—Continued**

of change-of-station orders that such orders would issue. Accordingly, JTR may be amended to authorize advance shipment of motor vehicles under same circumstances as is provided by par. M7000, for advance transportation of dependents.....

376

**Authority****Scope**

Where transportation services accorded privately owned vehicles of members of uniformed services transferred overseas under permanent change of duty station orders is a joint one by ocean and land carriers, movement cannot be characterized as "American shipping service" under 10 U.S.C. 2634, and service, therefore, is unauthorized, even though more economically than port-to-port water transportation. Also beyond scope of section is inland movement of vehicles to permit use of water-land transportation by U.S.-flag carriers and U.S. land carriers in order to obviate use of foreign flag, port-to-port water transportation. Authorization for shipment of privately owned vehicles at Govt. expense is limited to transportation by water and such inland movements as are necessarily incidental to water transportation and capable of being performed by ocean carriers as bona fide "shipping services".....

615

**Containership ocean transportation**

Cost of overland movement of privately owned motor vehicles of members of uniformed services incident to their shipment overseas pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2634 when member is ordered to make permanent change of station may be paid from appropriated funds where vehicles are placed in containers some distance from shipside, as this kind of service is within scope of sec. 2634 relating to use of "American shipping services." Also there is no objection to ocean carrier accepting containerized cargo at port from which it does not operate containership and transporting vehicle for its own convenience and at its own expense to another port from which it operates containership, where overall cost to Govt. is as if vehicle moved by water from port to which delivered.....

615

**Land transportation**

Authority in 10 U.S.C. 2634 for shipment at Govt. expense of privately owned vehicles of members of uniformed services ordered overseas on permanent change of station does not permit land movement of vehicles from one port to another in order to utilize U.S.-flag shipping—and although it is permissible to ship vehicles by water at Govt. expense from one port to alternate port for transshipment to U.S.-flag carriers, prudent management should require owners to deliver their vehicles to ports from which U.S.-flag shipping is available—nor is land movement of vehicles between two ports authorized under sec. 2634 where vehicle is delivered to port from which no ocean transportation is reasonably available.....

615

**Water-rail service**

Where transportation services accorded privately owned vehicles of members of uniformed services transferred overseas under permanent change of duty station orders is a joint one by ocean and land carriers, movement cannot be characterized as "American shipping service"

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued**

Page

**Automobiles—Continued**

**Military personnel—Continued**

**Water-rail service—Continued**

under 10 U.S.C. 2634, and service, therefore, is unauthorized, even though more economically than port-to-port water transportation. Also beyond scope of section is inland movement of vehicles to permit use of water-land transportation by U.S.-flag carriers and U.S. land carriers in order to obviate use of foreign flag, port-to-port water transportation. Authorization for shipment of privately owned vehicles at Govt. expense is limited to transportation by water and such inland movements as are necessarily incidental to water transportation and capable of being performed by ocean carriers as bona fide "shipping services"-----

615

**Bills of lading**

**Commercial converted to Government**

**Ocean freight**

The fact that commercial bill of lading covering shipment of radio equipment from Canada to California for export was required to be converted to Govt. bill of lading and second Govt. bill of lading was issued for California to Australia part of shipment does not preclude application of lowest available rate to determine charges from California to Australia and recovery from ocean carrier of overcharge that is difference between local and overland rates for ocean freight and which includes wharfage and hauling charges. Export nature of shipment was known to carriers, and but for requirement to use U.S. Govt. bills of lading, a through export bill of lading would have issued, and, furthermore, under Govt. bills of lading, shipment was made subject to terms and rates of commercial shipments.-----

601

**Dependents**

**Military personnel**

**Debarment from station**

**Restriction removed prior to member's arrival**

Air Force officer whose dependents incident to his permanent change of station from overseas to restricted area within U.S. are moved to selected home, upon learning when he arrived at restricted duty station that restriction had been removed prior to his transfer, is entitled under authority of par. M7005-4, item 4, of Joint Travel Regs. to monetary allowance in lieu of transportation for travel of dependents from home selected to new duty station on basis officer was on duty at new station when restriction on travel of dependents was removed. Similar claims made before or after this decision may be paid.-----

366

**Dependency status**

**Child in *ventre sa mere***

Although child in *ventre sa mere* on effective date of permanent change-of-station orders of father, member of uniformed services, may not be considered dependent for purposes of 37 U.S.C. 406(a) authorizing transportation at Govt. expense of persons dependent upon member on effective date of change-of-station orders, in view of beneficial purposes of statute, regulations may be issued to authorize reimbursement for cost of travel to member's new station of child born after effective date of change-of-station orders if wife's travel to new station at Govt. expense prior to birth of child is precluded by departmental regulations due to advanced stage of her pregnancy.-----

220

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued****Page****Dependents—Continued****Military personnel—Continued****Dislocation allowance****First duty station**

Place where member of uniformed services reenlisted after discharge from last duty station with no further assignment contemplated is place from which he was ordered to active duty within meaning of par. M9004-1, item 1, of Joint Travel Regs., which provides that dislocation allowance will not be payable in connection with permanent change-of-station travel performed from home or from place from which ordered to active duty to first permanent duty station upon reenlistment; and, therefore, member transferred on temporary duty for hospital treatment is not entitled to dislocation allowance to relocate his household incident to his transfer to the hospital since hospital was his first permanent assignment under reenlistment.....

473

**Hospital transfers**

Since under par. M7004-5 of Joint Travel Regs. a member of uniformed services whose dependents had moved at Govt. expense "as for a permanent change of station" incident to his assignment to hospital for extended treatment would be entitled to further transportation of dependents upon his transfer from hospital to permanent duty station, he would also be entitled to dislocation allowance upon relocation of his household incident to transfer from hospital.....

473

Navy officer detached from duty overseas and assigned to hospital "for study and treatment if indicated and appearance before a Medical Board and pre-retirement physical examination," who before moving his dependents home maintained them for short period in vicinity of hospital until he was placed on temporary disability retired list, is entitled to dislocation allowance, since par. M9003-3a, Joint Travel Regs., providing allowance incident to hospital transfer applies to officer and not par. M9004-1, item 2, which prohibits payment of allowance in connection with separation, release from active duty, placement on disability retired list, or retirement, since at time officer's orders were issued there was only possibility of retirement or transfer to temporary disability retired list.....

579

**Missing, interned, etc., members**

Dependents of member of uniformed services in missing status as defined in 37 U.S.C. 551(2), who have been furnished transportation for themselves and their household and personal effects incident to member's entry into missing status, may not again be furnished transportation while member's status remains unchanged, 37 U.S.C. 554 requiring change of status for entitlement to transportation; and change from one classification to another within "missing status" category, defined as missing; missing in action; interned in foreign country; captured, beleaguered, or besieged by hostile force; or detained in foreign country against member's will, does not constitute change within meaning of sec. 554, and therefore regulations may not be promulgated to authorize additional transportation incident to missing status.....

291

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued**

Page

**Dependents—Continued**

**Military personnel—Continued**

**More than one movement**

When status of member of uniformed services is changed from one to other of three categories specified in 37 U.S.C. 554—dead, injured, or absent for period of more than 29 days in missing status—transportation of dependents and of household and personal effects may be furnished incident to each change in status of member in accordance with 35 Comp. Gen. 399 (1956)-----

291

**Freight**

**Charges**

**Delivery requirement**

Freight charges claimed on overseas shipment that moved under GBL identifying shipment as frozen foods and which was refused at destination when it was discovered shipment contained meat as vessel had made several stops at ports considered to be infected areas for meat products, may not be allowed, even though part of shipment was returned to origin point in U.S., meat having been jettisoned at sea because its return was prohibited under Dept. of Agriculture regulation, as Consignee's Certificate of Delivery on GBL was not and could not have been accomplished without delivery of shipment—condition precedent to liability for freight charges-----

164

**Household effects**

**Commutation**

**Rate base for computation**

Employee who incident to moving household goods and personal effects from Allegheny County, Pa., to Montgomery County, Md., in his privately owned vehicle and rental truck although entitled to reimbursement on commuted rate basis may not have included in commuted rate metropolitan area rate or surcharge allowance. Area rate is only provided on shipments by common carrier between two locations involved, and employee transported own property, and payment of surcharge allowance, which is no longer authorized, was intended to reimburse employee required to pay such charge to common carrier and was not intended to grant increased benefits to employee moving own goods.----

827

**Military personnel**

**Missing, interned, etc., members**

Dependents of member of uniformed services in missing status as defined in 37 U.S.C. 551(2), who have been furnished transportation for themselves and their household and personal effects incident to member's entry into missing status, may not again be furnished transportation while member's status remains unchanged, 37 U.S.C. 554 requiring change of status for entitlement to transportation; and change from one classification to another within "missing status" category, defined as missing; missing in action; interned in foreign country; captured, beleaguered, or besieged by hostile force; or detained in foreign country against member's will, does not constitute change within meaning of sec. 554, and therefore regulations may not be promulgated to authorize additional transportation incident to missing status-----

291

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued****Page****Household effects—Continued****Military personnel—Continued****More than one movement**

When status of member of uniformed services is changed from one to other of three categories specified in 37 U.S.C. 554—dead, injured, or absent for period of more than 29 days in missing status—transportation of dependents and of household and personal effects may be furnished incident to each change in status of member in accordance with 35 Comp. Gen. 399 (1956)-----

**291****Release from active duty****To other than selected home**

Member of uniformed services who was retired at last duty station in Europe, and incident to selecting Australia as future home had household effects crated and temporarily stored at Govt. expense at old duty station to which he shortly returned from Australia and then had goods redelivered to quarters, is pursuant to par. M8100 of Joint Travel Regs. indebted for charges erroneously paid by Govt. However, since temporary storage costs are member's responsibility, he is entitled under par. M8260-1 of regulations incident to retirement orders to shipment of effects to U.S. within prescribed weight and 1-year period limitations, any excess cost over cost that would have been incurred in shipment of effects to home of selection in Australia to be paid by member-----

**431****Replacement for effects damaged or destroyed**

Replacement items for household effects of members of uniformed services assigned in Europe, which were destroyed by fire before delivery was effected, may not be shipped at Govt. expense, authority in 37 U.S.C. 406 (b) to ship household effects at Govt. expense incident to change of station relating to effects possessed by member on effective date of orders, or effects acquired shortly thereafter in exceptional circumstances, and before they are turned over to transportation officer or carrier for shipment, at which time member's shipping rights are exhausted, even though original shipment is damaged or destroyed in transit. Moreover, to authorize replacement shipments under 37 U.S.C. 406 would provide duplicate transportation benefits, since compensation paid pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 241 for destroyed property includes cost of transportation-----

**556****Trailer shipment****Missing, interned, etc., persons**

Transportation of housetrailer at Govt. expense for dependents of member of uniformed services in missing status, as defined in 37 U.S.C. 551 (2), may not be provided in absence of specific authority. 37 U.S.C. 554, in authorizing transportation of dependents and household and personal effects of members in missing status, does not expressly provide for transportation of housetrailer or mobile home—and words "personal effects" as used in section may not be construed as including housetrailer—and 37 U.S.C. 409, in providing for trailer allowance in lieu of transportation of baggage and household goods, and payment of dislocation allowance, restricts entitlement to member, or in case of death to dependents, and makes no provision for payment in event member is in missing status-----

**317**

**TRANSPORTATION—Continued**

Page

**Household effects—Continued****Military personnel—Continued****Weight limitation****Minimum for audit purposes**

Proposed procedure to establish minimum weight of 300 lbs. for examination of shipping documents of household goods shipments to determine if there are excess costs on account of members of uniformed services exceeding their authorized weight allowances would not satisfy audit requirements of U.S. GAO and may not be approved as there is no legal basis for disregarding shipments weighing less than 300 lbs. in determining whether excess costs are involved when to do so could serve to permit shipment at Govt. expense of weights in excess of those prescribed by Joint Travel Regs. implementing 37 U.S.C. 406 authorizing shipment. Moreover, departments have responsibility to maintain adequate controls in order to determine when shipments involving excess costs have been made and to take appropriate action to recover amount of any excess costs-----

705

**Rates****Metropolitan area rate**

Employee who incident to moving household goods and personal effects from Allegheny County, Pa., to Montgomery County, Md., in his privately owned vehicle and rental truck although entitled to reimbursement on commuted rate basis may not have included in commuted rate metropolitan area rate or surcharge allowance. Area rate is only provided on shipments by common carrier between two locations involved, and employee transported own property, and payment of surcharge allowance, which is no longer authorized, was intended to reimburse employee required to pay such charge to common carrier and was not intended to grant increased benefits to employee moving own goods-----

827

**Housetrailer**

**Military personnel.** (See Transportation, household effects, military personnel, trailer shipment)

**Rates****Export****Through rate****Bills of lading status**

The fact that commercial bill of lading covering shipment of radio equipment from Canada to California for export was required to be converted to Govt. bill of lading and second Govt. bill of lading was issued for California to Australia part of shipment does not preclude application of lowest available rate to determine charges from California to Australia and recovery from ocean carrier of overcharge that is difference between local and overland rates for ocean freight and which includes wharfage and hauling charges. Export nature of shipment was known to carriers, and but for requirement to use U.S. Govt. bills of lading, a through export bill of lading would have issued, and, furthermore, under Govt. bills of lading, shipment was made subject to terms and rates of commercial shipments-----

601

**TRANSPORTATION--Continued**

Page

**Requests****Issuance, use, etc.****Official business requirement**

Use of reduced Category Z fares offered by commercial airlines to U.S. under Govt. Transportation Requests (GTRs) pursuant to tariffs filed with Civil Aeronautics Board is limited by agreement to transportation payable from public funds for official travel only, and special fares may not be made available to contractor employees or nonappropriated fund agencies in Europe or elsewhere, whether payment is made from non-appropriated funds, or appropriated funds on reimbursable basis. Restrictions on use of GTRs prescribed in GAO Policy and Procedures Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, Title 5, secs. 2020.10 and 2020.80 maintain integrity of travel appropriation obligations, and GTRs serve to identify that travel performed was on official business in accord with special arrangements for reduced fares and, therefore, Army regulations in conflict with purpose of Category Z fares should be amended -----

748

**TRAVEL ALLOWANCE****Military personnel****Reserve Officers' Training Corps****Rifle and pistol team competition**

Since participation of members of Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in rifle and pistol team competition matches is neither military training nor part of ROTC curriculum, but participation is performed on voluntary extracurricular activity basis, to provide allowances to members participating in National Matches, they may be considered to have same status as civilians within meaning of 10 U.S.C. 4313 so as to entitle them to travel allowance of \$0.05 a mile and subsistence allowance of \$1.50 a day, and authority in 10 U.S.C. 4308(a) (8) may be invoked to provide allowances for participation in regional and international matches if Secretary of Army upon recommendation of National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice approves issuance of regulations to this effect-----

783

**TRAVEL EXPENSES****First duty station****Manpower shortage****Service agreement**

Agreements which appointees to manpower shortage positions execute pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5723(b), to remain in service of agency to which appointed or assigned for 12 months unless separated for reasons beyond their control which are acceptable to agency, should be revised to require only that employee remain in Govt. service, as language of sec. 5723(b) is substantially same as sec. 5724(1), which has been construed in *Finn v. U.S.*, Ct. Cl. No. 396-69, decided July 15, 1970, to require only that employee agree to remain "in the Government service" for period of 12 months rather than in service of particular agency-----

374

**Headquarters****Return to on workdays**

Employee ordered to temporary duty at point 100 miles from his residence which is located near his permanent headquarters who, although his orders do not so provide, voluntarily returns to residence



**TRAVEL EXPENSES—Continued**

Page

**Headquarters—Continued****Return to on workdays—Continued**

on workdays after close of business, as well as on nonworkdays, may be reimbursed travel expenses for days he returns to home in amount not to exceed expenses allowable had he remained at his temporary duty station, even though sec. 6.4 of Standardized Govt. Travel Regs. makes no reference to return to headquarters on workdays while on temporary duty, as there is no reason why rule applicable to nonworkdays may not be extended to voluntary returns on workdays after close of business if not specifically prohibited.....

44

**Military personnel****Authorization****Retroactive**

Treatment of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, located 40 miles apart, as one installation with one staff which resulted in movement of military and civilian personnel freely between both installations without competent orders directing permanent change-of-station or performance of temporary duty may not be corrected by issuance of retroactive orders to confirm assignments and authorize travel allowances for temporary duty or permanent change-of-station allowances incident to assignments, even though for purposes of Joint Travel Regs., installations are considered different stations since retroactive orders would be without effect to change vested rights of personnel involved....

803

**Leaves of absence****Reenlistment leave**

Since under 10 U.S.C. 703(b) members of uniformed services are only authorized transportation at expense of U.S. to and from place of leave selected for 30 days' special leave provided for voluntary extension of tour of duty in hostile area, reimbursement for travel to and from place of leave in addition to actual round-trip transportation costs is restricted to taxicab or other public carrier fares for transportation to and from carrier terminals utilized in performing authorized travel, as such fares constitute part of actual transportation costs, as well as those tips that are within limitations of par. M4402-4 of Joint Travel Regs., and members may not be reimbursed for miscellaneous expenses that are not related to transportation costs, such as cost of checking and transferring baggage, or passport and visa fees.....

764

**Local travel****Home or lodgings and place of duty**

Chief warrant officer who is detached from duty station at Hunter Army Airfield and assigned to duty overseas with temporary duty en route at Fort Stewart—both locations within 40-mile radius and considered two different duty stations under Joint Travel Regs. as they are established subdivisions with definite boundaries, even though administered as single post with single command and staff—is not entitled to travel allowance for commuting daily by privately owned automobile from residence to temporary duty station since there was no official necessity for return to old duty station and there is no evidence warrant officer could not obtain lodgings at temporary duty station, but he is entitled to per diem on basis he entered travel status day he reported for temporary duty, notwithstanding he continued to occupy his old residence.....

803

**TRAVEL EXPENSES—Continued**

Page

**Military personnel—Continued****Ship assignments****Ship overhaul v. inactivation away from home port**

Transportation benefits prescribed by Pub. L. 91-210, approved Mar. 13, 1970, 37 U.S.C. 406b, for members of uniformed services permanently attached to ships being overhauled away from home port, whose dependents reside at home port, may not be extended to personnel of ships being inactivated away from home port to authorize reimbursement for round trip travel to visit dependents residing at home port. Although act does not define "overhaul," and its meaning is not reflected in legislative history of act, since Navy's definition of "overhaul" does not include inactivation of ship, benefits of act may not be extended to personnel of ships being inactivated away from home port. However, no exception will be taken to payments already made.-----

320

**Overseas employees****Hired overseas****Residence in United States, etc.**

Travel and transportation expenses of newly appointed employee from foreign country may be paid by Canal Zone agencies if employee at time of appointment has place of actual residence in U.S., its territories or possessions. However, as 5 U.S.C. 5722 authorizes payment of such expenses only from employee's place of actual residence at time of appointment, reimbursement may not exceed that which would have allowed employee for travel and transportation from place of actual residence in U.S., its territories or possessions.-----

644

Former employee of Canal Zone Govt. whose place of actual residence was in California, but who at time of appointment was temporarily residing in Costa Rica, and who had transported his household goods to Costa Rica in his own truck prior to signing employment agreement, which he signed in Costa Rica prior to travel to Canal Zone, may be reimbursed travel and transportation expenses from Costa Rica to Canal Zone in accordance with provisions of Office of Management and Budget Cir. No. A-56, but he may not be reimbursed expenses of moving from California to Costa Rica since these expenses were not incurred in anticipation of his appointment in Canal Zone.-----

644

**Temporary duty****Return of official station on workdays**

Employee ordered to temporary duty at point 100 miles from his residence which is located near his permanent headquarters who, although his orders do not so provide, voluntarily returns to residence on workdays after close of business, as well as on nonworkdays, may be reimbursed travel expenses for days he returns to home in amount not to exceed expenses allowable had he remained at his temporary duty station, even though sec. 6.4 of Standardized Govt. Travel Regs. makes no reference to return to headquarters on workdays while on temporary duty, as there is no reason why rule applicable to nonworkdays may not be extended to voluntary returns on workdays after close of business if not specifically prohibited.-----

44

**TRAVEL EXPENSES—Continued**  
**Witnesses**

Page

**Courts-martial proceedings**

Issuance of invitational travel orders and payment of commuted travel allowances under 5 U.S.C. 5703 to civilian persons other than Federal Govt. employees who are requested to testify at pretrial investigations pursuant to Art. 32 of Uniform Code of Military Justice, 10 U.S.C. 832, which is implemented by Manual for Courts-Martial prescribed by E.O. No. 11476, June 19, 1969, may be authorized, even though manual makes no provision for subpoena of witnesses and payment of witness fees, since investigations are integral part of courts-martial proceedings. However, as approval authority is discretionary, it should be exercised within framework of Military Code, which in Art. 49 provides for depositions, and Manual, which in par. 34d prescribes guidelines and Joint Travel Regs. revised accordingly-----

810

**UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

**Military personnel restored to duty**

**Deduction from pay adjustment**

Payment for period of active duty incident to correction of military records of member of uniformed services is not subject to deduction for unemployment compensation received by member during period between premature discharge from duty and retirement, as rule in 35 Comp. Gen. 241 to effect unemployment compensation is not deductible from back pay of civilian employee restored to duty because of direct refund by employee is for application. Therefore, since unemployment compensation received by member does not come within purview of "interim civilian earnings" for purpose of administrative directive that such earnings are deductible in Correction Board cases, amount of unemployment compensation deducted from pay adjustment made to member is for refund to him-----

180

**UNIONS**

**Federal service**

**Arbitration services**

**Effect on administrative determinations**

Establishment of first 40 hours of duty as basic workweek of Govt. quality control inspectors due to release from work of contractor employees when unpredictable interruptions and delays occur in checkout of missiles prior to launch—countdown—was in accord with 5 U.S.C. 6101 and Civil Service Reg. 610.111, which authorize uncommon tours of duty to maintain efficient operations and prevent cost increases. Therefore, determination of arbitration board under E.O. No. 10988 procedures that new work schedule was in violation of collective bargaining contract, requires no compensation and leave adjustments. Moreover, Executive order provides that arbitration "shall be advisory in nature with any decision or recommendation subject to approval of the agency head"-----

708

Following upgrading of entrance grades for attorneys to GS-9 and GS-11 from GS-7 and GS-9, and adjusting of grades as consequence, National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) negotiated agreement with NLRB Professional Assn. to consider shorter time periods for promotions and requested waiver of Whitten Amendment requirement of 1-year in-grade except when only 5 weeks or less remained to complete

**UNIONS—Continued**

Page

**Federal service—Continued****Arbitration services—Continued****Effect on administrative determinations—Continued**

required year of service, and as agreement entered into pursuant to E.O. No. 10988, which reserved to Govt. authority to promote efficiency of personnel operations, does not guarantee promotions, exercise of 5-week rule is administrative and its validity is not matter for arbitration. Therefore, attorney whose promotion was delayed by reason of 5-week rule is not entitled to retroactive promotion for in absence of administrative error general rule against retroactive promotions applies-----

850

**Dues****Deduction discontinuance**

Timely mailed revocation of dues allotment to employee organization made pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5525, which was received in payroll office on Monday, Mar. 2, first workday after Mar. 1 deadline set by Civil Service Commission, 5 CFR 550,308, constitutes compliance with regulation under rule that when act is to be performed by certain date and last day of period falls on Sunday, requirement is complied with if act is performed on following day. Therefore, discontinuance of allotment having become effective at beginning of first full pay period following Mar. 1 deadline, dues deducted subsequent to revocation are for collection from employee organization and repayment to employee-----

108

**VESSELS****Construction**

**Subsides.** (*See Maritime Matters, subsidies, construction-differential*)

**Crews****Compensation****Increases****Retroactive**

Where new labor-management agreement is not reached prior to expiration of old agreement, retroactive compensation adjustment under new agreement is considered "practice" in maritime industry within contemplation of 5 U.S.C. 5342(a), which establishes compensation of crewmembers employed aboard research vessels. However, in addition to this criteria, sec. 5342(a) requires as basis for retroactive payment of compensation that administrative determination be made that adjustment would be in public interest, and as union agreement providing for wage adjustments within 30 days of MSTTS announcement is based on determination that retroactive adjustment would not be in public interest, retroactive effect may not be given to wage increases granted by 5 U.S.C. 5342(a) while provision remains in force-----

93

**Overtime**

A Corps of Engineers civilian wage board employee who performed 24-hour port watch duty aboard seagoing hopper dredge and received only 8 straight-time hours of compensation is entitled to payment for additional 8 hours claimed, and properly documented, at overtime rates on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling et al. v. U.S.*, and *France et al. v. U.S.*, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970), in which court held plaintiffs were in standby duty for time in excess of 8 hours and applied two-thirds rule, allowing 8 hours for sleeping and eating time, and awarded plaintiffs 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates pursuant to 5

**VESSELS—Continued**

Page

**Crews—Continued**

**Compensation—Continued**

**Overtime—Continued**

U.S.C. 5544, rule that has been followed in decisions of Comptroller General -----

767

Claims for 8 hours of additional compensation at overtime rates that are presented to Corps of Engineers by civilian wage board employees who performed 24-hour tours of duty on dredges and other floating plants, receiving compensation for only 8 hours of work on straight-time basis may be paid, if properly documented, by Corps on basis of two-thirds rule in *Detling* and *France* consolidated cases, 432 F. 2d 462 (1970). However, doubtful claims should be forwarded for settlement to Claims Division of U.S. GAO pursuant to 4 GAO 5.1, and when 10-year limitation act of Oct. 9, 1940 is involved and claims cannot be promptly approved and paid in full amount claimed, they should be forwarded to Claims Division for recording under 4 GAO 7.1, and after recording claims will be returned to Corps for payment, denial, or referral back to GAO for adjudication.-----

767

Where claims of civilian wage board employees of Corps of Engineers for 8 hours overtime compensation, which are presented on basis of consolidated cases of *Detling* and *France*, 432 F. 2d 462, incident to 24-hour port watch aboard hopper dredges or other floating plants and receipt of only 8 hours straight-time compensation, cannot be adequately documented, payment may be made by Corps on basis of most accurate estimate after considering all available records. For example, if time and attendance records are missing for some part of period claimed but available pay and leave records support reasonably accurate estimates of standby duty, estimates will be considered sufficiently documented, or where no signed logs can be found for standby duty claimed, next best evidence—duty rosters—may be used to substantiate payment of overtime-----

767

**Sales**

**American v. foreign purchasers**

In sale for scrapping of vessels from national defense fleet, secs. 5 and 6 of Merchant Marine Act of 1920, affording preference to U.S. citizens, remain in effect and are applicable to sales for scrapping or otherwise, for notwithstanding secs. 508 and 510(j) of 1936 Merchant Marine Act authorizing sale of surplus vessels contain no preference provisions, Maritime Administration continued to accord preference to U.S. citizens, and addition of sec. 510(j) to 1936 act by amendment in 1965 did not repeal preference aspects of 1920 act by implication, an interpretation in accord with *Amell v. United States*, 384 U.S. 158. Furthermore, histories of 1936 act and 1965 amendment do not indicate intent to deprive domestic firms of preference obtained under 1920 act.---

167

**VOUCHERS AND INVOICES**

**Past due invoices**

**Interest payment**

Rejection of bid under solicitation issued for Federal Supply Schedule contract to furnish wood office furniture because of inclusion of qualifying provision "1½% interest per month on past due invoices," which contracting officer refused to delete, was proper under sec. 1-2.404-

**VOUCHERS AND INVOICES—Continued**

Page

**Past due invoices—Continued****Interest payment—Continued**

2(b) (5) of Federal Procurement Regs. Regulation provides for rejection of bid if bidder imposes conditions which would modify requirements of invitation, or limit his liability or rights of Govt. to his advantage, and although objectionable conditions may be deleted if they do not go to substance of bid—that is, that they only have trivial or negligible effect on price, quantity, quality, or delivery—condition imposed affected price and could not be deleted. Furthermore, contracting officer is without authority to obligate Govt. to pay interest on unpaid invoices. 5 Comp. Gen. 649, modified.-----

733

**WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY****Land acquisition****Subway construction**

In development of rail rapid transit system, Board of Directors of Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority—instrumentality created by Compact with consent of Congress—may acquire lands under administration of National Park Service of Dept. of Interior, and should cash be paid for appraised value of parklands, cash is for deposit into Treasury in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 484. However, if congressional approval is sought to use money to replace surface parklands, amount received by Dept. may be held in escrow for period not to exceed 2 years. Furthermore, under provisions of Compact, Board has authority to purchase land to replace surface parklands needed for transit purposes..

159

**WITNESSES****Courts-martial proceedings****Travel expenses**

Issuance of invitational travel orders and payment of commuted travel allowances under 5 U.S.C. 5703 to civilian persons other than Federal Govt. employees who are requested to testify at pretrial investigations pursuant to Art. 32 of Uniform Code of Military Justice, 10 U.S.C. 832, which is implemented by Manual for Courts-Martial prescribed by E.O. No. 11476, June 19, 1969, may be authorized, even though manual makes no provision for subpoena of witnesses and payment of witness fees, since investigations are integral part of courts-martial proceedings. However, as approval authority is discretionary, it should be exercised within framework of Military Code, which in Art. 49 provides for depositions, and Manual, which in par. 34d prescribes guidelines and Joint Travel Regs. revised accordingly.-----

810

**WORDS AND PHRASES****"Actual residence"**

The term "actual residence" is not defined in 5 U.S.C. 5722 or implementing regulations, which authorize travel and transportation expenses for new appointees to posts of duty outside continental U.S., and is for determination from facts of each case. Although term as used in sec. 5722 generally would be understood to mean place at which appointee physically resides at time of appointment, term may include "legal residence" or "domicile" of employee.-----

644

WORDS AND PHRASES—Continued

Page

**"Containers"**

Low alternate bid offering to use polyethylene bags with Kraft paper overwrap in lieu of cartons to ship fuel-resistant baffle material satisfying packaging and packing requirements set forth in applicable military specifications and included in invitation for bids, neither of which spelled out type of material or construction of container, was responsive bid, acceptance of which was proper. Invitation for bids did not require use of fiberboard cartons and military specifications require only that materials be packed in manner to insure acceptance by common carrier and provide protection against damage during shipment. Furthermore, overwrapped polyethylene bags constitute "containers" within meaning of "Glossary of Packaging Terms" and par. 1-1204 of Armed Services Procurement Reg-----

140

**"Ejusdem generis"**

Authority in 49 U.S.C. 1375(h) to use air taxi mail service contracts in event of emergency caused by flood, fire, or other calamitous visitation may not be exercised upon occurrence of any unforeseen event which renders normal mail transportation facilities unavailable, such as sudden loss of RPO train schedule, or unexpected closing of airport runway causing certified air carriers to temporarily suspend service at airport; for under the "ejusdem generis" rule of construction, general words "calamitous visitation" are restricted by particular terms "flood or fire," and term "calamity" supposes continuous state produced by natural causes. Nonconforming existing contracts should be terminated as soon as practicable, and any temporary arrangements made under Postal Reorganization Act should be terminated when emergency ceases.-----

255

**"Employee"**

Authority in 5 U.S.C. 5584 to waive erroneous payments of compensation made to employees of executive agencies is applicable to non-U.S. citizens employed by U.S. in foreign areas, as term "employee" as used in sec. 5584 means employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 2105; that is, individual appointed in "civil service," which constitutes all appointive positions in executive, judicial, and legislative branches of Govt., except positions in uniformed services (5 U.S.C. 2101(1)). Therefore, Philippine citizen, properly appointed to position in executive branch to perform Federal function supervised by Federal employee, is employee under 5 U.S.C. 5584 and entitled to waiver of erroneous compensation payments without regard to fact employment is under labor agreement with Philippine Govt-----

329

**"No gain technique"**

Where in evaluation of management, financial, and technical factors offered under request for quotations for operation overseas of communication system, offerors are found equally qualified technically on basis of normalizing results of numerical scoring system used by Source Selection Evaluation Board and analysis of Board's evaluation by Source Selection Advisory Council using its independent scoring and weighting—referred to as "no gain technique"—and on basis of reevaluating manpower proposals, award of cost-plus-award fee contract to lowest offeror was proper, and award is unaffected by Advisory Council's deviation, with permission, from evaluation guidelines in Army Command Pamphlet 715-3, and by changes in scoring made between evaluations, since relative weights of evaluation criteria were preserved-----

890

## WORDS AND PHRASES—Continued

Page

**"Orangeburg"**

Classification of workmen who installed "Orangeburg" fiber ducts as conduit for underground electrical wiring as laborers under contract including wage determination for electricians and laborers, and disputes clause was violation of Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, and referral of erroneous classification to Secretary of Labor under disputes clause when contractor disagreed with contracting officer's determination based on prevailing area practice but refused to submit contrary evidence did not violate contract or prejudice contractor because it had not been advised of referral, and Secretary's confirmation, even though based on record only, that classification was erroneous—determination that is not subject to review—entitles laborers who were not supervised by journeyman electrician to wage adjustment as electricians and not electrician apprentices -----

103

**"Public works"**

Contracts for repainting mailboxes at their stationary positions, work that is regular, continuous and recurring, and is performed in accordance with Post Office Dept.'s Letter Box Maintenance Handbook approximately every 36 months, are subject to Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a, an act that is applicable to contracts in excess of \$2,000 for painting and decorating of public buildings and works, whether performed in conjunction with original construction or as regular maintenance, and mailboxes are within contemplation of term "public works," which term encompasses any Govt-owned facility necessary for carrying on community life and to cover any article or structure that is placed, either permanently or temporarily, at particular location to serve public purpose.---

720