

(2) the studies do not, for the most part, duplicate each other although they are similar. We do not mean to imply that there are no differences between the two projects. However, the general objectives of each project are similar and the research subjects in both projects are representative of the population for which the Agency requires data. Accordingly, we believe that with adequate coordination the Public Health Service-supported project may have been modified to satisfy the objectives of the project which the Federal Aviation Agency had recently initiated.

The Agency acknowledged that there were no formal procedures for coordinating research between it and the Public Health Service. The Federal Aviation Agency advised us that it would establish formal procedures for coordinating new research projects with the Public Health Service.

With regard to whether both projects should continue to be financed, the Administrator, Federal Aviation Agency, informed us that Agency officials had discussed this matter with Public Health Service officials, at which time they agreed that each group would maintain its separate project. Because of the technical nature of the question involved, we are not in a position to determine the merits of the decision reached. The situation described in this report serves, however, to illustrate the importance of adequate coordination between Government agencies before long-term research projects are initiated. The establishment of formal procedures by the Federal Aviation Agency for coordinating new research projects with the Public Health Service, if such procedures are properly implemented, should assist in accomplishing research objectives in a more economical manner. Accordingly, we are making no recommendations at this time. We will continue to observe the manner in which the Federal Aviation Agency and other Government agencies coordinate their research efforts.

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REVIEW OF REEMPLOYMENT LEAVE TRAVEL BENEFITS GRANTED
CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES IN STATES OF ALASKA AND
HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES

The General Accounting Office has made a review of reemployment leave travel benefits granted certain civil service employees in the States of Alaska and Hawaii by the Department of Defense and other Government agencies.

Under the law, the Government pays the expenses of round trip travel of certain employees and the transportation of their immediate families from their posts of duty in Alaska or Hawaii to their designated residences at time of appointment or transfer, for the purpose of taking leave between tours of duty.

These benefits are provided to attract employees with needed skills to duty posts outside the continental United States and to induce them to extend their tours of duty at such posts. The hearings on the authorizing legislation (5 U.S.C. 73b-3) indicate that reemployment leave travel benefits were for employees who do not intend to become permanent residents of Alaska or Hawaii and that a reevalua-