

As shown in our report, if the recruiting organizations were consolidated, each of the services could have at least one representative at each recruiting station. This would permit each service to present to interested prospective applicants its enlistment programs and to inform them of any advantages or benefits peculiar to the particular service involved.

In recent years the Department of Defense has directed the consolidation of a number of significant services and activities that are common to all military departments. This action has resulted in the establishment of Defense-wide organizations, such as the Defense Supply Agency and the Defense Contract Audit Agency. The McCormack-Curtis amendment to the National Security Act of 1947 Authorized the Secretary of Defense to unify any common supply or service activity that was not a major combatant function without consulting the Congress or the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Subsequent to the enactment of the McCormack-Curtis amendment, the Joint Economic Committee held hearings on the matter and identified military recruiting activities as one of the fruitful areas subject to consolidation. The House Appropriations Committee has also expressed concern over the use of separate facilities by the military services for recruiting purposes.

We brought our findings to the attention of the Department of Defense and the four military services and proposed that the Secretary of Defense, under the authority given him by Public Law 87-651, enacted September 7, 1962 (10 U.S.C. 125), direct that a field test of the consolidation of military recruiting organizations and facilities be conducted. We were informed that a Defense-wide study of recruiting facilities was underway to develop plans for relocating and combining separate recruiting offices to the extent practicable. We were advised that this study would identify appropriate geographical areas for conducting a test of the consolidation of recruiting offices. The Department informed us also of action taken to further combine and unify physical examining, mental testing, and enlistment processing functions within the military services.

In view of the significant savings which we believe can be achieved if the separate field recruiting organizations and facilities are consolidated, we recommended to the Secretary of Defense that the contemplated field test be undertaken and completed as expeditiously as feasible. We requested the Secretary of Defense to furnish us with the results of the study as well as the results of the field test to be made of the consolidation of recruiting offices.

[Index No. 40—B-158482, June 3, 1966]

MANAGEMENT OF THE PROCUREMENT OF MAJOR EQUIPMENT AND RELATED SPARE PARTS BY THE U.S. MARINE CORPS, DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

We found that there is a diffusion of responsibility in the management and supervision of major equipment procurement programs of the United States Marine Corps. There were a total of five separate management organizations—three in the Department of the Navy, one in the United States Marine Corps, and one in the Department