

reservations regarding the limiting coverage provided by the proposed regulation and suggested that the provisions of the regulation should be broadened to cover a wider range of contractor ADP acquisition activities. However, until we have had an opportunity to review the system in actual operation, we will not be in a position to determine the effectiveness of the regulation.

We intend to continue our efforts to review the need, application, and utilization of ADP equipment by Federal departments and agencies and we will keep the Committee advised of our studies in this area.

MODIFICATION OF AGENCY ACTIVITIES TO MEET NEEDS OF OTHER AGENCIES

Report on review of long-term medical research on aging of aviation personnel (B-158515; April 12, 1966)

We reviewed a long-term project for medical research on the aging of aviation personnel, which was being financed by the Federal Aviation Agency.

The objective of the Federal Aviation Agency's efforts in this 25-year research project was to develop methods for measuring the physiologic age, as distinguished from the chronologic age, of aviation personnel. The Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, also was supporting a project through a research grant to learn more about the process of physiological aging and its progress in relation to chronological age. The latter project was using pilots as a study group and was expected by the grantee to continue for a total of 30 years. The projects, which were being funded at annual rates totaling about \$365,000, would have cost the Government \$9.7 million (\$5 million for the Federal Aviation Agency and \$4.7 million for the Public Health Service) if financed to completion.

In our opinion, the need for the Federal Aviation Agency to undertake a separate long-term project on the aging of pilots and other aviation personnel was questionable because (1) the general objectives of each project are similar and each project is based on the same planning study and (2) the information being developed under the Public Health Service-supported research project could, it seems, have been adapted to meet the objectives of the project which the Federal Aviation Agency had recently initiated.

In 1960 the Federal Aviation Agency awarded a contract to the Lovelace Foundation for Medical Education and Research, Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a research planning study of aging criteria. The Lovelace Foundation advised the Agency that an extensive planning study was necessary before any long-term project on aging could be effectively initiated. Prior to the award of the contract, the Subcommittee on Independent Offices of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, expressed concern that the Federal Aviation Agency was about to undertake research in an area already being studied by the Public Health Service and by other Government agencies. The Agency informed the subcommittee that, to its knowledge, neither the Public Health Service nor any other research group was conducting research on aging related to the task of piloting. Subsequently, the Agency learned that the Foundation intended to apply to the Public Health Service for a grant to support a long-term project on the aging of pilots. However, the Agency proceeded to make the first examinations in its long-term aging project.

We concluded that, upon being advised of the Foundation's intention to apply to the Public Health Service for a grant to conduct long-term research on the aging of pilots, the Federal Aviation Agency could have formally communicated with the Service and the Foundation to determine whether one long-term project could be devised to meet the needs of both agencies.

In commenting on our findings, the Agency acknowledged that there were no formal procedures for coordinating research between it and the Public Health Service and advised us that it would establish such procedures for coordinating new research projects.

Subsequent to the issuance of our report on this matter, the Federal Aviation Agency discontinued its research project. This action will save an estimated \$3.8 million.

Report on review of geodetic surveying activities within the Federal Government (B-113188; January 25, 1967)

We made a review of the geodetic surveying activities of selected agencies of the Federal Government.

Geodetic surveys are basically land surveys made for the purpose of determining the precise position of specific points on the earth's surface in terms of