

- 15 properties for Federal highway uses.
- 11 properties for airport uses.
- 1 property for wildlife conservation uses.
- 1 property for historic monument.

During the first 6 months of fiscal year 1967, 94 surplus real properties have been conveyed for public uses.

A change in emphasis on surplus real property disposal from a preference for public use conveyances at price discounts to a preference for disposal by sale, with only residual properties being made available for conveyance at price discounts for public uses, could increase return of cash proceeds from sales by about \$30 million annually.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ACT OF 1965

As you know, with the enactment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (78 Stat. 897) the net proceeds from the sale of surplus real property is covered into the fund and is available for appropriation for the purposes of the act, including the purchase of lands. On the other hand, public use conveyances at price discounts not only deprive the Treasury of the full value of the property but sometimes result in uses of property not wholly consistent with its highest and best use simply because it can be obtained without cost or at substantial discounts by the using public body. In addition, to the extent that surplus property is donated for use in federally assisted public health and education programs under recently enacted legislation, the amount of Federal assistance is significantly augmented by the value of the property so conveyed.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Among GSA's varied responsibilities is the improvement of current records management and paperwork practices in Federal agencies. Further, it is charged with selecting, preserving, and making available, both to the Government and to the public, the permanently valuable noncurrent records of the Federal Government and with expediting the disposal of unneeded records. In fiscal year 1966 GSA's total records centers program, by accessioning Agency records, cleared for reuse 331,000 square feet of office space and 89,000 square feet of storage space. To have leased an amount of space equivalent to that cleared would have cost the Government \$1.1 million. These records transfers also emptied 65,300 filing cabinets, 5,700 transfer cases, and 398,500 linear feet of shelving. Federal agencies were thus enabled to avoid the purchase of new filing equipment valued at \$3.7 million. The storage of records in GSA records centers rather than in agency space avoided additional expenditures of \$6.2 million.

COST REDUCTION PROGRAM

Dealing specifically with the cost reduction program directed by President Johnson last September 16 calling for an intensified effort to reduce costs in the areas of procurement, supply, and property management, we have taken affirmative actions to effect savings and avoid costs in accordance with his directive.