

APPENDIX 4

DIGESTS OF SELECTED U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REPORTS ISSUED TO THE CONGRESS DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 8, 1967, THROUGH OCTOBER 12, 1967

[Index No. 1—B-158712, March 8, 1967]

POTENTIAL SAVINGS OBTAINABLE THROUGH INCREASED USE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERAGENCY MOTOR POOL SYSTEM, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

During our review at six military installations in the Washington, D.C., area, we found that employees who required automobiles in connection with travel while on temporary duty assignments customarily rented automobiles from commercial firms even though vehicles were generally available from the Government's interagency motor pool system at a 10- to 50-percent reduction in cost and at little inconvenience to the traveler.

The use of the interagency motor pool system, whenever feasible, is a stated policy of the Department of Defense. We found, however, that although the military services have issued instructions which call attention to the existence of the interagency motor pool and provide pool locations, addresses, and telephone numbers, the regulations did not specifically require personnel to use the motor pool system. Consequently, we found that travelers needing vehicles generally did not attempt to obtain them from the motor pool system, but, instead, rented cars from commercial car rental firms.

From our review, we estimated that the annual cost of car rentals at the six military activities included in our review amounted to approximately \$214,000. Assuming these activities to be typical, it appeared that substantial savings could be achieved each year by the Department of Defense if greater use was made of the existing services of the interagency motor pool system.

The Director, Transportation and Warehousing Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics) advised us in a letter dated September 28, 1966, that the Department of Defense concurred in our findings and conclusions. He stated that the military services have been requested to review and modify pertinent directives or regulations as necessary to ensure that the requirement for the use of interagency motor pool facilities is explicitly stated.

In addition, we have been advised by the Administrator, General Services Administration that agreement has been reached with the Department of Defense whereby the General Services Administration will (1) increase the size of the motor pool fleet if necessary at locations designated by the Department of Defense where vehicle requirements of department personnel are relatively stable, and (2) assist in the development of internal regulations and publicity to insure the effective implementation of such regulations by personnel authorizing and performing travel.