

personnel being furnished accommodations which would more closely correspond to those now being occupied by civilian counterparts.

To date, a reply has not been received from the Secretary of Defense.

6. CONSOLIDATION OF FIELD ORGANIZATIONS AND FACILITIES

At the hearings in May 1967 we reported on the potential savings to be achieved by consolidating certain organizations and facilities which we had reviewed and of our intentions to review additional activities. The status of Department of Defense actions on reviews completed and of new reviews undertaken by us are as follows:

FACILITIES FOR RECRUITING MILITARY PERSONNEL

In the past, the four military services were maintaining separate field recruiting organizations and facilities substantially in excess of their combined needs. Following our report in June 1966, the Department of Defense issued a directive establishing uniform policies and procedures for providing adequate space for use by recruiting offices and stations and for co-locating such facilities to the maximum extent practicable.

With respect to the progress the Department of Defense has made, we have been advised that it plans to reduce the number of recruiting locations in 14 large metropolitan areas from 524 to 186 locations. In this connection, as of September 30, 1967, 32 recruiting sites have been co-located. It is planned that the remaining 154 co-locations will be accomplished by the fourth quarter of fiscal year 1969.

MOTION PICTURES

During a preliminary survey of the management and utilization of photographic facilities within the Department of Defense, the General Accounting Office found strong indications that the Army and the Navy motion picture production facilities were not being used to capacity and that the Air Force planned to establish a prime motion picture production center at Norton Air Force Base, California, at an estimated cost of \$7 million. In June 1967, a letter report of the General Accounting Office was transmitted to the Secretary of Defense setting out views and observations that the Army Pictorial Center, Long Island, New York, appeared to have sufficient capacity to absorb a substantially increased workload comparable to the requirements of the Air Force. It appeared that it would be most feasible for the Air Force motion picture activities to be combined at the Army Pictorial Center. It was suggested to the Secretary of Defense that the Norton project be delayed until he had considered the observation in the letter report.

By letter dated August 29, 1967, however, the General Accounting Office was informed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Administration)—replying for the Secretary of Defense—that combining the Air Force motion picture activities at the APC is not considered feasible. The Assistant Secretary stated that " * * * such a combining would raise difficult interface problems by separating the Air Force motion picture production, processing, distribution and depository from other mission elements which represent an effective integrated system. I therefore consider it appropriate for the Air Force to proceed with plans for construction at Norton AFB."

MILITARY CALIBRATION SYSTEMS AND LABORATORIES

We have surveyed the establishment and operation of calibration laboratories by the Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The Survey was based primarily upon a review of the laboratories in the Puget Sound area of the State of Washington, but we also evaluated the management control exercised by higher command levels within the services and by the Department of Defense (DOD).

There are at least six separate calibration systems in the Department of Defense: one in the Air Force, one in the Army, and at least four in the Navy. These systems consist of a large number of calibration laboratories at the base level to calibrate test and measurement equipment, a lesser number of secondary level laboratories to calibrate the instruments used by the base level laboratories, and a limited number of primary level laboratories to calibrate the instruments of the secondary laboratories. The instruments of the primary laboratories are calibrated by the National Bureau of Standards.