

affects other Federal agencies, just like we do not expect GSA to get into the Department of Defense areas of responsibility.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. So what your answer should have been is, it is the responsibility of GSA to notify HEW?

Colonel DAVID. Yes, sir.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. That is the answer.

Colonel DAVID. That is right.

Mr. ROMNEY. Colonel David, how was the information that was contained in Mr. Knott's letter of April 8, 1968, approving the exchange of groups 15 and 16 communicated to the service departments?

Colonel DAVID. On the exemption?

Mr. ROMNEY. On the exemption; yes, sir.

Colonel DAVID. The first notification came out by a letter that was sent to the military—correction. Let me put it this way. The exemption that was granted by GSA, plus a letter of transmittal and a letter from the Department of Defense to GSA was put into a package and it was sent to the military departments and DSA for implementation. In other words, we took our letter that we received from GSA recommending an exemption, the letter that we sent back to GSA requesting an exemption, and the letter that came back from GSA granting the exemption, and we put the three letters together in a letter of transmittal and sent it to the military departments and DSA informing them of what transpired between DOD and GSA and requested that they implement this exemption. Subsequent to that the military departments and DSA made interpretations of the letters and then in turn issued implementing instructions accordingly.

Mr. ROMNEY. Were you aware of the interpretations which had been given to these instructions at any time prior to this committee's interest in this matter?

Colonel DAVID. No, sir; I was not.

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. Chairman, I would like to request permission to include in the record the documents which the three services and DSA have issued which set forth the new descriptions of groups 15 and 16 with the exemptions for aircraft parts and structural components: The Navy implementing instructions of June 17, 1968, the Air Force implementing instructions of May 28, 1968, the Department of the Army's letter of May 8, 1968, spelling out the language for the new exemptions granted for 15 and 16, and the Defense Supply Agency's letter of April 30, 1968, also spelling out the new language for the exemptions for groups 15 and 16.

Mr. MONAGAN. Without objection, this may be entered in the record.¹

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. Chairman, I have one further question I would like to ask the colonel to comment on.

In the Navy instructions of June 17, 1968, there is a discussion of the replacement standards with respect to furniture. Now, this Navy instruction is directed to implementing the exchange/sale policy. And furniture happens to be one of the items that are ineligible for exchange/sale. Could you comment on why the Navy instructions deal with furniture in this exchange/sale implementation document?

Colonel DAVID. I am not sure that I can properly answer that question, but I think possibly that GSA may be able to answer this question, because of the way the furniture rebuild and trade-in program

¹ The documents are printed in the appendix.