



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

B-171695

September 28, 1971

BEST DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

Mr. Dun B. Bray, Jr., Staff Director
Subcommittee on Manpower and Civil Service
Committee on Post Office and Civil Service
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Bray:

The General Accounting Office has inquired into the matters contained in letters from employees of the Military Ocean Terminal at Bayonne, New Jersey (MOTBY) to Chairman Henderson and subsequently forwarded to us by you for consideration during our audit of comparative container stuffing costs at MOTBY.

The employee's complaint in the letter of February 28, 1971, involved alleged discrimination for job opportunities against himself and other former Department of the Navy employees by the Department of the Army when Navy employees and functions were transferred to the Army in 1967. The complaint, therefore, had no connection with our audit of comparative container stuffing costs.

The letter of March 30, 1971, indicated that the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army were systematically engaging in an unwarranted reduction of civil service employees at MOTBY by contracting out for functions performed by civil service personnel at the facility. Our inquiry disclosed that an Eastern Area, Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service (EAMTMS) task force study (released for official use only in February 1971), recommended that MOTBY be reduced to the station of an outport activity, a move that could result in 1,000 employees being declared excess to operational requirements. However, we were informed that the above study was superseded by a similar study conducted on a national basis by Headquarters, MTMS, and released in March 1971. This later study recommended that a policy of continued retention of military ocean terminals be supported.

Certain aspects of the reduction in the civil service workforce at MOTBY will be covered in our reports to the Subcommittee on the comparative costs of container loading as well as of the activities

7.15.73/1022/6

associated with the GTS Vessel Admiral Callaghan. This specific complaint, however, had no direct connection with the audit of comparative labor costs.

If you wish additional information or additional work in connection with the matter contained in the letters, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Smith Blair

Smith Blair
Office of Legislative Liaison

GA 000210

BEST COPY AVAILABLE