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BY THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
**Report To The Director
Of The Office Of Management
And Budget**

**Disparate Management Of Small
Arms By Federal Civil Agencies**

Approximately 50,000 employees at over 40 Federal organizations are assigned to carry small arms and ammunition. There is no central guidance on management of civilian small arms. Agencies make management decisions independently, and practices differ widely.



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GAO believes the Office of Management and Budget should review agencies' small arms management and policies to ensure the maximum effectiveness of Federal employees carrying small arms at the least practicable cost.



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B-200214

The Honorable James T. McIntyre, Jr.
Director, Office of Management and
Budget

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

Approximately 50,000 employees in more than 40 Federal civil agencies are assigned to carry small arms (handguns, rifles, and shotguns) and ammunition. We reviewed how these agencies manage their small arms resources and capability and found there was no central management guidance for civilian small arms. Also, management decisions were made independently by agencies. Therefore, the management practices regarding small arms differ widely among agencies with similar missions. Our detailed findings are contained in appendix I.

We believe the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should examine the small arms management and policies used by the agencies to ensure the maximum effectiveness of Federal employees carrying small arms at the minimum cost.

OMB is best suited to take the lead in bringing about management reforms because it is the only agency with authority over the organizations involved. We believe the management problems can best be addressed by an interagency committee of experts from the key agencies. This committee, which could be led by OMB, should address the problems identified by our work and develop central policy and guidance.

We recommend the Director of OMB establish an interagency committee composed of experts from the key affected agencies. This committee should examine the various options available to improve the management of small arms. OMB should lead this committee in answering questions, such as the following:



- Should minimum firearms training requirements be adopted?
- Is there a need for criteria for requalification requirements?
- Can the variety of small arms and ammunition be reduced?
- Should criteria for ratios of small arms to employees be established?
- How can better accountability over inventories of Federal civilian small arms be established?
- Should the issuance of Government weapons to employees who prefer to carry personally owned weapons on duty be limited?
- Should a policy be developed on whether hollow-point ammunition is appropriate for Federal employees to use?

We requested written comments on the report from OMB and the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, the Interior, Justice, State, Transportation, and the Treasury. The Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, and the Treasury provided comments in sufficient time for them to be incorporated into this report (see apps. IV through VIII). They generally concurred with our conclusions and recommendations.

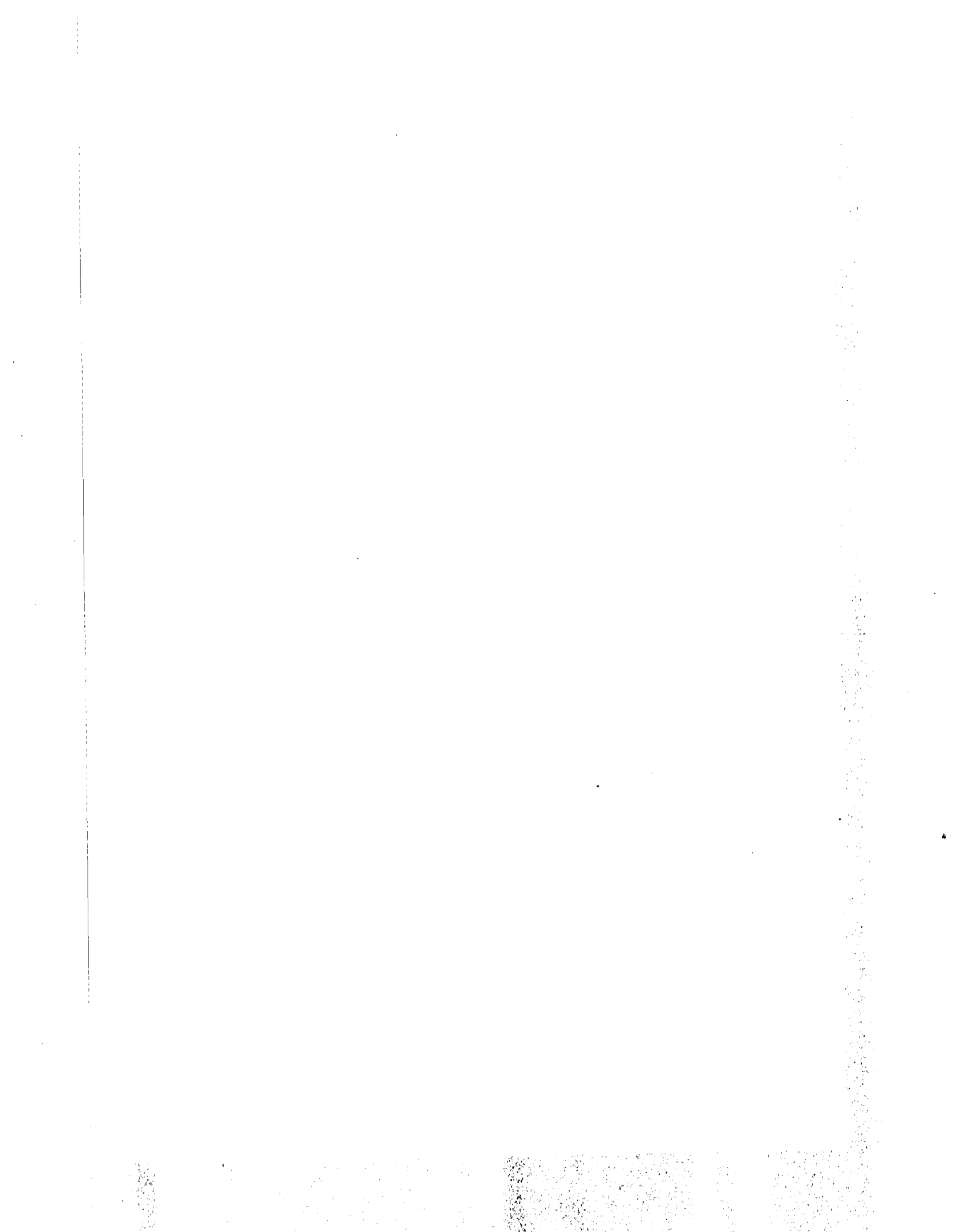
As you know, section 236 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 requires the head of a Federal agency to submit a written statement on actions taken on our recommendations to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Government Operations not later than 60 days after the date of the report and to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with the agency's first request for appropriations made more than 60 days after the date of the report.

We are sending copies of this report to the Chairmen, House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, House Committee on Government Operations, and Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs; and the heads of the affected organizations listed in appendix III.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. W. Gutmann".

R. W. Gutmann
Director

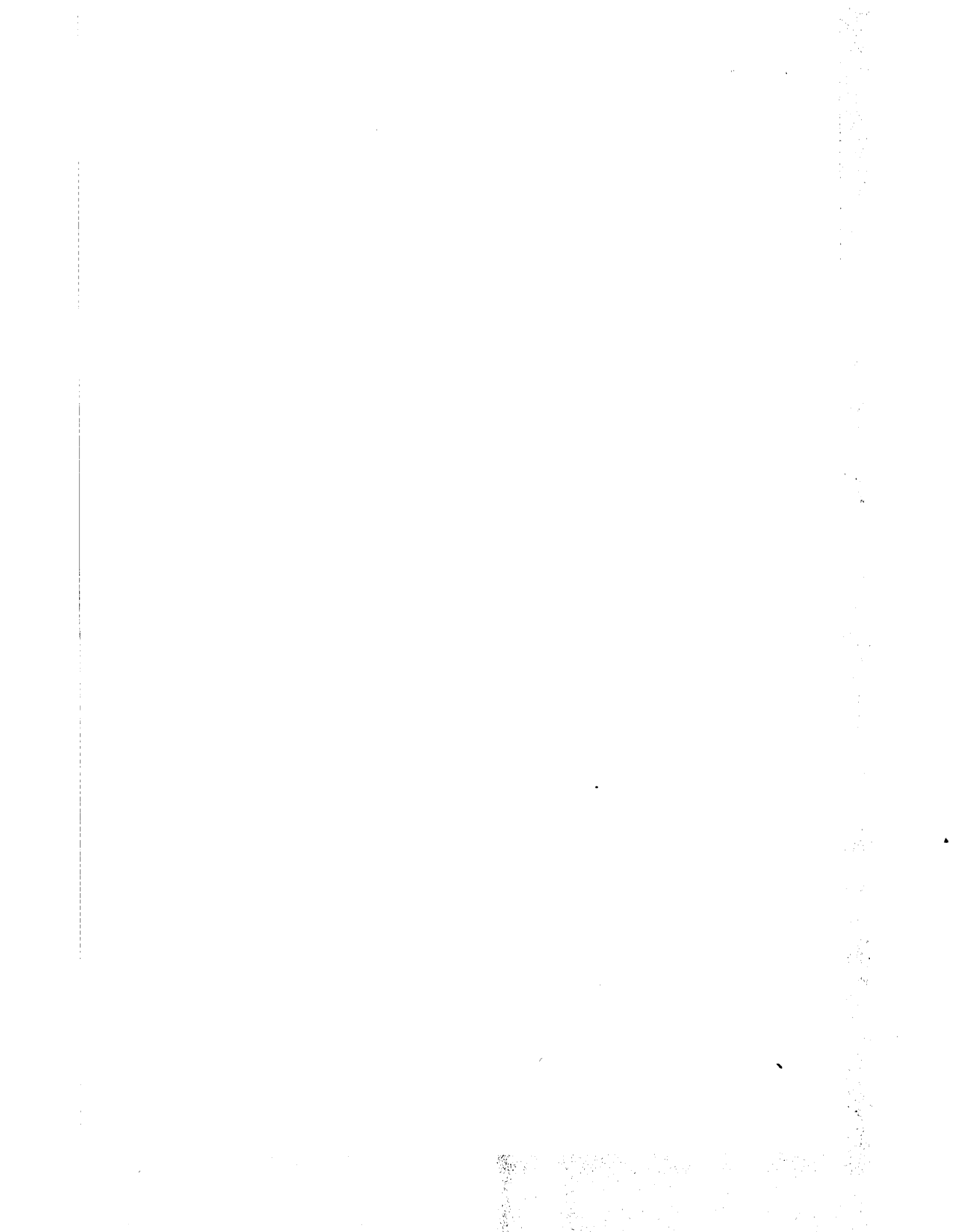


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SUMMARY OF GAO'S FINDINGS
ON FEDERAL MANAGEMENT OF SMALL
ARMS AMONG CIVIL AGENCIES

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

This report discusses the management of small arms (hand-guns, rifles, and shotguns) by civilian agencies throughout the Federal Government. The objective of our review was to assess how civilian Federal organizations manage small arms. A previous report discussed how the U.S. Army could improve its management and control of small arms. 1/

Since our review encompassed the entire civilian Federal Government, we found entities at all the following levels possessed small arms: departments, agencies, bureaus, and offices. (See app. III.) Therefore, we refer to all these entities as "organizations." When the word organization is used, it could mean any or all of the above entities.

The Government had little information on which civilian Federal agencies possessed small arms. The best available listing of known civilian agencies who might possess small arms was a report entitled "The President's Reorganization Project On: Federal Law Enforcement, Police and Investigative Activities--A Descriptive Report," October 1978. This report was the result of President Carter instructing the Office of Management and Budget and several other affected Federal organizations to conduct a comprehensive review of all Federal law enforcement missions, tasks, and priorities. The relevant organizations were categorized as those having

- direct law enforcement missions or
- functions not mainly concerned with law enforcement, but which have some programs and activities in law enforcement, police, or investigative areas.

Using this basic categorization, the project staff identified a total of 113 civilian and military organizations as the known universe of Federal law enforcement entities.

1/"Army Needs To Improve Its Management and Inventory Control of Small Arms," LCD-80-44, Mar. 24, 1980.

Another important source of information which we used to meet the objective of our review was the March 1978 report by the Surveys and Investigations Staff of the House Committee on Appropriations. This report discussed the proliferation of handguns and handgun ammunition within the military services.

Using the listing referred to above, we sent questionnaires covering the period July 1, 1975, through September 30, 1979, to 101 civilian Federal organizations in November 1979. We eventually received a 100-percent response to our questionnaire, and from this identified 44 organizations possessing small arms. (See apps. II and III.)

We counted only 43 in our universe, because one organization stored unused handguns, did not have ammunition, and lacked authority for employees to carry or use guns. We excluded organizations with defense or intelligence missions because the scope of such a review would have been too large, and we have performed some work in the area previously.

Also, we interviewed officials at 18 of the organizations' headquarters, 8 field offices in Chicago, and 8 field offices in New York to obtain more indepth information on policies and details of their management of small arms.

We gathered information on how Federal civilian agencies manage small arms. (See app. II.) We will discuss five of the most significant areas: firearms training, proliferation in the variety of small arms, weapons per employee, ammunition procurement, and the hollow-point bullet controversy.

FIREARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

Except for two organizations who hired trained personnel, all civilian Federal organizations provided for basic firearms training to newly hired personnel whose duties involved the use of small arms. Many of the organizations provided their own basic training course to employees. Others used the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) for some or all basic training. FLETC is part of the Department of the Treasury and is located in Glynco, Georgia. FLETC serves as an inter-agency training center on such law enforcement topics as firearms and provides basic, advanced, and specialized courses in firearms.

Basic firearms training is very important to every Federal employee who carries a weapon because (1) the life of the employee and the lives of others may depend on the employee's shooting proficiency and (2) the organization and the employee may be held legally liable for injuries resulting from accidental discharge of weapons. Basic training courses on small arms usually cover the safe use and care of weapons which will be carried in the line of duty. During this initial training, the student is required to "qualify." To qualify, a student must score about two-thirds of a perfect score on a given practice course.

Firearms training differed among the organizations. Two organizations did not offer basic training to new employees because the positions were not entry level, and the personnel had received firearms training while serving in other jobs. Thirty-two of the organizations used their own facilities to provide their basic firearms training to newly hired employees. Also, 21 reported they used FLETC for some or all basic training.

Followup firearms training and requalification

All the Federal civilian organizations require employees to retrain and requalify with small arms periodically. Wide variations exist in retraining and requalification procedures, even among organizations with similar missions. Much ammunition and time are used in these exercises.

The Federal Government spends millions of dollars, staff hours, and rounds of ammunition every year to requalify employees of civilian organizations. In total, the Government spends an estimated \$27 million, 1.3 million staff hours, and 32.3 million rounds of ammunition annually in the requalification of employees in their assigned weapons. For example, we theorize that an average-size agency could spend about \$81,000 to have its employees requalify annually or as much as \$325,000 to requalify quarterly.

The number of rounds fired by each organization for qualification or requalification in small arms varied greatly. One organization had its employees fire 500 rounds for requalification, while another had its employees fire only 6 rounds. The typical number of rounds fired for requalification was 50 to 100, with 27 organizations having a requirement within that range. Almost all the organizations permitted some "warm-up" firing. The number of warm-up rounds also varied widely in a range from 5 to 180 rounds.

Unlimited practice firing allowed
with Government ammunition

The majority of the organizations responded that they did impose some limitation on employees practicing with Government ammunition. Yet 41 percent (18 organizations) imposed no limits on the amount of practice firing for their employees. This may be a wasteful expenditure of funds and time because there is no scientific data to show how this improves marksmanship.

Wide variety of firing postures and
target distances among agencies

In firing for requalification, employees are required to fire from different postures and a variety of distances from the target. The most prevalent posture among the organizations is to have employees fire while standing without barricades. Thirty-nine organizations require this. Eighteen organizations fire from a distance of 25 yards, while 12 require their employees to stand and fire from a distance of 15 yards. The table below shows the number of organizations and their requirements for requalification.

Wide Variety of Firing Postures and
Target Distances Among Agencies

<u>Firing posture</u>	<u>Number of organizations requiring posture</u>	<u>Range of distance (in yards)</u>	<u>Most frequent distance (in yards)</u>
Prone	15	15-100	25 and 50
Sitting	16	15-50	50
Kneeling	25	15-50	25
Standing	39	7-50	25
Crouching	23	7-50	7
Barricade left (standing)	28	15-50	25
Barricade right (standing)	28	15-50	25
Barricade over (kneeling)	19	15-50	25

WIDE VARIATIONS IN THE FREQUENCY OF REQUALIFICATION

Requalification frequencies differ widely among Federal civilian organizations. Some agencies require their employees to requalify as much as eight times a year, whereas others require their employees to requalify less frequently than every 3 years. The most popular frequency of requalification was semiannually.

<u>Frequency of requalification</u>	<u>Number of organizations having that frequency</u>
Monthly	<u>a/1</u>
Eight times a year	1
Quarterly	5
Semiannually	18
Annually	14
Less frequently than every 3 years	2
Varies within organization	<u>1</u>
Total	<u><u>b/42</u></u>

a/This is FLETC.

b/One organization did not answer the question concerning frequency of requalification.

None of the agencies we interviewed could explain why they requalified as frequently as they did. Authorities on small arms offered various recommendations about which frequency of requalification was best--from monthly to semi-annually. However, no one has ever scientifically studied the correlation between the frequency of firing requalification and assuring shooting proficiency and/or improving scores. Agencies which require their employees to requalify several times a year could be wasting money if no scientific evidence exists to indicate this will improve proficiency in marksmanship. Also, agencies which require their employees to requalify less than every 3 years may not be assuring the shooting proficiency of their employees.

Widely varying frequencies of requalification among organizations with similar functions

The frequency of requalification among Federal organizations with similar functions should be approximately the same. Yet, wide differences exist in the frequency of requalification among organizations with comparable missions.

<u>Primary function</u>	<u>Requalification frequency (range)</u>
Investigative	Eight times annually to less frequently than every 3 years
Police	Quarterly to annually
Guard	Quarterly to less frequently than every 3 years

PROLIFERATION IN THE VARIETY OF SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION

There has been considerable proliferation in the variety of small arms and ammunition among civilian Federal organizations. Currently, these organizations have 180 makes, models, and types of weapons and 40 types of ammunition. This is awesome compared to the military services who consider having 25 different makes and models of handguns as proliferation.

On the basis of a report by the Surveys and Investigations Staff, the House Committee on Appropriations reported in July 1978 on the proliferation in the variety of handguns and ammunition within the military services. The Committee report was critical of the 25 different makes, models, and types of weapons in existence among the 655,458 handguns maintained by the military services. It pointed out that the proliferation of handguns led to many problems including

"* * * the stocking and inventory of component spare parts, filing and control of repair and spare parts specifications for each different weapon, training of gun repair personnel, and expanded inventory control * * *."

If the above is considered proliferation, civilian agencies have also experienced considerable proliferation

with 180 makes, models, and types of weapons and 40 types of ammunition. Of course, many problems arise, such as the costly maintenance, as a result of this proliferation of small arms and ammunition. Obviously, the greater the number of models and types of weapons in the Government's inventory, the greater are the costs and problems with the stocking of spare parts and ammunition, maintenance, training, and inventory control. For example, the Government has the equivalent of 24 full-time gunsmiths to service the 89,828 guns in the inventories of Federal civilian organizations. The proliferation of small arms also causes training problems for gunsmiths and additional repair work being done by private gunsmiths.

WEAPONS PER EMPLOYEE AMONG
CIVILIAN FEDERAL ORGANIZATIONS

Federal civilian organizations with employees assigned to carry arms, on the average, had 1.8 small arms per arms carrying employee. Some organizations have maintained a close ratio of arms per employee, while others have acquired arms in excess of their needs. The range of ratios among all organizations varied from a low of 0.4:1 to a high of 6:1. Five organizations had a ratio of three or more weapons per employee, certainly well above the average of 1.8 per employee.

To further analyze the ratios of small arms to personnel among organizations with approximately the same mission, we divided all the organizations into investigative, police, and guard functions. We determined where to place each agency by functional category, based on the majority of job descriptions.

Organizations with comparable functions should yield roughly equivalent ratios. Yet, as the table below shows, there were widely differing ranges of ratios for organizations with related missions.

<u>Primary function</u>	<u>Ratio of small arms per employee (range)</u>
Investigative	1.2:1 to 6.0:1
Police	0.7:1 to 4.6:1
Guard	0.4:1 to 2.0:1

PROCUREMENT AND INVENTORIES OF CIVILIAN
SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION

Civilian organizations have an inventory of about 90,000 small arms valued at \$6.2 million. During the time frame of our questionnaire, July 1, 1975, through September 30, 1979, civilian organizations had purchased 19,442 weapons at a cost of \$2.1 million, and they had also purchased 114 million rounds of ammunition costing \$9.7 million. The .38 caliber revolver and its ammunition were the most frequently purchased and inventoried. Second and third in popularity were the .357 caliber revolver and the 12-gauge shotgun.

Small arms most frequently purchased
and inventoried were also most often
declared standard

The weapons most often declared standard were also the most frequently purchased and inventoried. The organizations had more .38 caliber, 4-inch barrel, Smith and Wesson revolvers in inventory than any other kind of small arms, and a majority of organizations (26) had chosen this revolver as their standard issue weapon. The .38 caliber, 2-inch barrel, Smith and Wesson revolver and the 12-gauge Remington shotgun were cited by 21 organizations as among their prescribed standard weapons. Fifteen organizations designated the .357 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver as their standard firearm.

<u>Most frequently inventoried</u>	<u>Most frequently named standard</u>	<u>Price range</u>
.38 caliber revolver	.38 caliber revolver, Smith and Wesson	\$145-\$155
.357 caliber revolver	.357 caliber revolver, Smith and Wesson	\$165-\$175
12-gauge shotgun	12-gauge Remington shotgun	\$175-\$185
M-1 rifle	M-1 rifle	\$125-\$150

Most of the 43 organizations reported they had one or more standard weapons. Five indicated they did not have standard weapons. Also, eight organizations reported all

their weapons were standard--even .22 caliber revolvers and submachineguns. The organizations based the selection of their standard weapons on the following reasons:

- Nine used their own experience with the weapon or weapons.
- Seven stated that they had made special studies in order to select their standard weapon or weapons.
- Seven cited general availability of the weapon or its ammunition as the basis for selection.
- Three said they had followed the recommendation of other Federal civil agencies.
- One cited a recommendation of a U.S. military organization.
- Six cited other reasons.

Procurement of civilian
small arms and ammunition

Sixty percent of the weapons purchased during our questionnaire time frame were the .38 or .357 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver. The table below summarizes all weapons purchased since July 1, 1975.

<u>Weapon type</u>	<u>Quantity purchased</u>	<u>Percent of total</u>
.38 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver	5,920	30
.357 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver	5,903	30
12-gauge Remington shotgun	3,592	18
Other Smith and Wesson hand- guns	282	2
Other handguns	463	3
Other shotguns	293	2
Rifles	<u>2,990</u>	<u>15</u>
Total	<u>19,443</u>	<u>100</u>

Eighty-one percent of all rounds of ammunition purchased during our review time frame were .38 caliber. The bullet purchased in the greatest quantity was the .38 caliber, 148 grain, nonexpanding, round-nose bullet. The second largest purchase was the .38 caliber hollow-point bullet. The table below summarizes the ammunition purchases reported.

<u>Ammunition type</u>	<u>Number of rounds purchased</u>	<u>Percent of total</u>
.38 caliber nonexpanding round nose	76,446,364	67
.38 caliber hollow point	15,809,485	14
Other nonexpanding	10,834,770	9
Other hollow point	3,307,730	3
Other, handgun type not specified	3,690,770	3
Shotgun ammunition	<u>4,067,438</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	<u>114,156,557</u>	<u>100</u>

The organizations purchased ammunition using the following methods:

<u>Number of organizations</u>	<u>Procurement method</u>	<u>Number of rounds (millions)</u>	<u>Percent of total</u>
7	Ammunition supply schedules of the Dept. of Justice or the Dept. of the Treasury	95	83.3
14	Directly from local dealers	12	10.5
3	Central purchase (competitive or non-competitive) without use of supply schedules	2	1.8
18	Combination of two or more methods	5	4.4

We compared the purchase costs of ammunition among organizations which used the Department of Justice or Department of the Treasury ammunition supply schedules and organizations which used other methods of procurement. We found that the lowest prices were almost consistently available from the supply schedules of the Department of Justice and the Department of the Treasury---especially when large quantities were purchased. Of the 40 types of ammunition in civilian inventories, we were able to use 34 types for the purpose of the above comparison. The table on page 12 shows that in 28 of the 34 cases, the purchase cost to those organizations using the supply schedules extensively was lower than the cost to organizations not using the supply schedules extensively.

HOLLOW-POINT BULLET CONTROVERSY

Along with the caliber and powder content, bullets are characterized as either round nose or hollow point. In recent years, a number of law enforcement agencies at all levels of government have switched from the traditional round-nose bullet (nonexpanding) to the hollow-point (expanding) bullet. Some in the law enforcement community switched to the hollow-point bullet because of its "stopping power." That is, the bullet can stop an individual, thus rendering the person incapable of posing a continued threat. The traditional round-nose police bullet does not have this power, and there have been numerous cases where criminals have been shot five or six times with .38 round-nose slugs and still were able to seriously injure or kill the police officer. The reason the hollow point has a more incapacitation effect is that it is hollowed out in a concave fashion at the front end of the bullet, and as it is fired into a human, it expands. The round-nose bullet is more likely to pass through an individual and strike someone (or something) else.

Much debate exists on whether law enforcement agencies should use hollow-point ammunition. Opponents of the hollow-point bullet charge it should not be used because it

--inflicts more severe wounds,

--causes more deaths, and

--is not permitted in international warfare by the Hague Conference of 1899.

Proponents support the use of hollow-point ammunition in American law enforcement by contending it

Purchasing Ammunition from the Supply Schedules
of the Departments of Justice and the Treasury
Versus Other Procurement Methods

<u>Type of ammunition</u>	<u>Supply schedule cost (note a)</u>	<u>Cost of other methods (note a)</u>
Nonexpanding:		
.22 caliber	\$ 24	\$ 33
.223 caliber (5.56-mm.)	119	129
7-mm.	230	100
.30	159	77
.357 caliber, 110 grain (note b)	121	188
.357 caliber, 125 grain	125	163
.357 caliber, 158 grain	119	131
9-mm.	106	210
.38 caliber, 95 grain	121	149
.38 caliber, 110 grain	83	106
.38 caliber, 125 grain	105	194
.38 caliber, 148 grain	77	60
.38 caliber, 158 grain	80	99
.380 caliber	122	175
.45 caliber, 185 grain	119	160
.45 caliber, 230 grain	135	330
Hollow point:		
.22 caliber	26	25
.223 caliber	118	157
.30 caliber	204	276
.357 caliber, 110 grain	116	162
.357 caliber, 125 grain	161	180
.357 caliber, 158 grain	94	231
9-mm.	234	188
.38 caliber, 95 grain	70	225
.38 caliber, 110 grain	124	132
.38 caliber, 125 grain	116	129
.38 caliber, 148 grain	77	95
.38 caliber, 158 grain	97	72
.380 caliber	114	200
.45 caliber, 185 grain	130	250
Shotgun ammunition:		
12-gauge, #00 buckshot	196	238
12-gauge, #4 buckshot	197	270
12-gauge, #9 buckshot	116	156
12-gauge, rifled slug	196	482

a/Cost per thousand rounds.

b/Grain is unit used in measuring gunpowder.

- does not produce a different or more severe wound,
- has the capability to render an assailant incapable of further aggression, and
- does not differ with the mostly commonly used non-expanding police bullets (round nose--either semi-jacketed orunjacketed) because only jacketed bullets are permitted under the Hague Conference of 1899.

Of the 42 organizations responding to our questionnaire, 11 reported they only used hollow-point bullets, 12 responded they used both hollow-point and round-nose bullets as their service round, and 19 reported they used round-nose, non-expanding bullets.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Fourteen organizations could not provide complete questionnaire information on the number of small arms in their inventories and on the purchase price. Effective accounting requires accurate inventory records in both quantities and dollars. Without good accountability, the Government could be losing dangerous and valuable small arms which could fall into the wrong hands.

MANY PERSONALLY OWNED SMALL ARMS ARE CARRIED ON DUTY

Approximately 12,000 Federal employees in 11 agencies were authorized to carry their personally owned weapons on duty. Most of the organizations allowed personally owned weapons to be used instead of Government-issued weapons. However, four of these agencies issued Government weapons even though the employees carried their own weapons on duty. Thus, the Government was bearing the cost of furnishing weapons not used on duty, as well as incurring costs for requalifying on both weapons.

U. S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

SURVEY OF THE USE OF SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION IN FEDERAL AGENCIES

(1-3)

1 (4)

INTRODUCTION

This questionnaire is being used to gather information for a GAO review of the management of small arms (handguns and shoulder weapons) and ammunition in the Federal Government. It asks for information on the type and quantity of small arms and ammunition in use in each organization as well as the procurement, repair, and training practices employed by the organization in the area of small arms.

Most of the questions can be answered by simply checking a box or entering a small amount of written information. Throughout the questionnaire there are numbers in parentheses. They are there simply to expedite the keypunching of responses. Please disregard them.

A preaddressed return envelope has been enclosed with the questionnaire. We ask that the questionnaire be completed and returned in that envelope within 15 days of receipt. If you find it difficult to complete and return the questionnaire that promptly, or if you have any questions about the questionnaire or the review, please call either Mr. Raymond Stock or Mr. George Shelton at (202) 275-3663 or FTS 275-3663.

In the event that the return envelope is misplaced the correct return address is:

U. S. General Accounting Office
Room 5848
Attention: Mr. Raymond Stock
441 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20548

Thank you for your cooperation in this review.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Name of Organization: _____

Name of Person Who May Be Contacted for Clarification if Necessary: _____

Telephone Number: _____
(Area Code) (Number)

I. Personnel

1. How many employees of your organization are authorized to carry small arms in the performance of their official duties? If none, please write "none" and return the questionnaire.

50,102

(6-9)

(No. of Personnel)

2. Of that number of personnel, about how many are in each of the following employee categories?

83 Investigator (10-13)

10,892 Criminal Investigator (18/11) (14-17)

5,971 Guard (18-21)

6,148 Police (22-25)

6,163 Inspector (26-29)

3,132 Security Officer/Specialist (30-33)

7,987 Special Agent (34-37)

Other (Please specify by number in each.)

9,337 _____ (38-41)

_____ (42-45)

_____ (46-49)

II. Small Arms Inventory

3. As of September 30, 1979, approximately how many small arms (handguns and shoulder weapons) in total were on hand and available for official use by your organization. (50-54)

92,661
(No. of Small Arms)

4. Please show in the schedule below the number of each of the listed weapon types available for official use by your organization as of September 30, 1979. Also, show, by weapon type, the total acquisition cost of the September 30, 1979 inventory. Next show, again by weapon type, the number of such weapons purchased by your organization since July 1, 1975, and the total procurement cost of those weapons purchased since July 1, 1975. NOTE: Do not include any seized weapons.

Weapon Type	Inventory as of 9/30/79		Purchases Since 7/1/75	
	Units	Total Acquisition Cost	Units	Purchase Cost
SHOULDER WEAPONS				
<u>Rifles:</u>				
M-1	3,094	191,529	1,151	27,429
M-14	299	38,435	217	28,402
M-16	706	104,220	90	19,890
AR-15	501	90,862	332	82,990
<u>Other rifles (Please list):</u>				
UZI	630	162,123	597	154,963
OTHERS	4,032	318,466	603	98,770
<u>Shotguns:</u>				
Browning	114	6,324	5	1,485
Ithaca	334	22,970	25	3,591
Remington	6,568	702,628	3,592	422,848
Winchester	1,387	80,155	49	3,496
<u>Other shotguns (please list):</u>				
	1,104	44,279	214	3,720
<u>HANDGUNS</u>				
<u>Revolvers:</u>				
Colt 22 cal.	253	13,314	12	565
Colt 38 cal., 2 in. barrel	4,078	188,303	60	5,326
Colt 38 cal., 4 in. barrel	10,824	519,541	29	2,695
Colt 357 magnum	1,035	56,703	16	1,806
<u>Other Colt revolvers (please list):</u>				
	429	31,447		

(Continued on next page)

4. (Continued)

Weapon Type	Inventory as of 9/30/79		Purchases since 7/1/75	
	Units	Total Acquisition Cost \$	Units	Purchase Cost \$
<u>Revolvers (cont.):</u>				
Smith & Wesson 22 cal.	474	27,751	29	3,495
Smith & Wesson 38 cal., 2 in. barrel	10,154	644,589	1,487	131,534
Smith & Wesson 38 cal., 4 in. barrel	25,235	1,555,938	2,493	202,024
Smith & Wesson 357 magnum	12,777	993,602	5,903	685,490
<u>Other Smith & Wesson revolvers (please list):</u>				
	3,145	244,273	2,090	162,432
<u>Other revolvers (please list make and model):</u>				
	541	43,372	241	20,051
<u>Other handguns (not revolvers):</u>				
Browning, 9 millimeter	215	13,716	13	100
<u>Other Browning models (please list):</u>				
	19	895		
Colt 22 cal.	40	1,469		
Colt 38 cal.	171	4,888		
Colt 9 millimeter	10	260	1	100
Colt 45 cal.	342	11,607	6	654
<u>Other Colt models (please list):</u>				
	33	1,914		
Smith & Wesson 38 cal.	44	3,520	19	1,979
Smith & Wesson, 9 millimeter	299	20,296	82	12,944
<u>Other Smith & Wesson models (please list):</u>				
	49	3,246	2	339
<u>Other handguns (please list make and model):</u>				
	892	57,358	85	5,336
TOTAL	89,828	\$6,199,993	19,443	\$2,084,454

5. Does your organization have a centralized inventory file for small arms or is such inventory information maintained only at the individual location level (e.g., field or regional office)? (Please check only one.) (55)
1. /12/ Organization has a centralized inventory file
 2. /6/ Inventory data maintained at the location level only (If checked, please skip to question 7.)
 3. /25/ Both centralized and location level inventory files
 4. /0/ Other (please describe) _____
(1) No response
6. Is the centralized inventory data on small arms maintained in a computerized file or a manual file? (Please check only one.) (56)
1. /7/ Computerized file
 2. /11/ Manual file
 3. /16/ Both computerized and manual files
 4. /3/ Partially computerized, partially manual
(7) No response
7. Within your organization, are small arms purchased centrally or at the location or regional level? (Please check only one.) (57)
1. /19/ All small arms are purchased centrally (If checked, please skip to question 9.)
 2. /12/ All small arms are purchased at the location or regional level (If checked, please skip to question 9.)
 3. /17/ Small arms are sometimes purchased centrally and sometimes purchased at the location or regional level
(1) No response
8. During that same period, has your agency transferred any small arms to other Federal agencies? (15)
1. /16/ Yes
 2. /27/ No
(1) No response

9. Which, if any, of the following possible bases for selecting a standard weapon best describes the primary reason why your organization selected the above-cited weapon or weapons as standard? (Please check only one.) (58)
1. /3/ Recommendation(s) of other Federal civil agency(ies)
 2. /1/ Recommendation(s) of U. S. military organization(s)
 3. /9/ Our organization's experience with the weapon or weapons
 4. /7/ Specific studies conducted by or for this organization
 5. /7/ General availability of the standard weapon(s) or its (their) ammunition
 6. /6/ Other basis (please describe) _____
(11) No response
10. Has your organization changed the weapon considered the standard weapon since July 1, 1975? (59)
1. /11/ Yes
 2. /24/ No
(9) No response
11. Does your organization limit the number of small arms that may be assigned to an organization location? (60)
1. /31/ Yes
 2. /12/ No (If no, please skip to question 20.)
(1) No response
12. Is the number of small arms that may be assigned to a location based upon the nature of the activity at the location, the number of weapon-qualified personnel at the location, or other factors? (Please check only one.) (61)
1. /14/ Nature of activity
 2. /14/ Number of weapon-qualified personnel
 3. /2/ Other factors (please describe) _____
(14) No response

APPENDIX II

13. Which, if any, of the following weapons is (are) your organization's prescribed standard small arm(s)? (Please check all that apply.)

HANDGUNS

Revolvers:

- 1. 5/ Colt 22 cal. (25)
- 2. 19/ Colt 38 cal., 2 in. barrel (26)
- 3. 17/ Colt 38 cal., 4 in. barrel (27)
- 4. 6/ Colt 357 magnum (28)
- 5. 2/ Other Colt revolvers (Please specify model.) _____ (29)

- 1. 3/ Smith & Wesson 22 cal. (30)
- 2. 21/ Smith & Wesson 38 cal., 2 in. barrel (31)
- 3. 26/ Smith & Wesson 38 cal., 4 in. barrel (32)
- 4. 16/ Smith & Wesson 357 magnum (33)
- 5. 4/ Other Smith & Wesson Revolvers (Please specify model.) _____ (34)

- 6. 7/ Other revolvers (Please specify make and model.) _____ (35)

Other handguns:

- 1. 3/ Browning 9 millimeter (36)
- 2. 0/ Other Browning models (Please specify model.) _____ (37)

- 1. 1/ Colt 22 cal. (38)
- 2. 3/ Colt 38 cal. (39)
- 3. 2/ Colt 9 millimeter (40)
- 4. 3/ Colt 45 cal. (41)
- 5. 0/ Other Colt models (Please specify model.) _____ (42)

APPENDIX II

Other handguns (cont.)

- 1. 1/ Smith & Wesson 22 cal. (43)
- 2. 1/ Smith & Wesson 38 cal. (44)
- 3. 2/ Smith & Wesson 9 millimeter (45)
- 4. 0/ Other Smith & Wesson models (Please specify model.) _____ (46)

- 5. 1/ Other handguns (Please specify make and model.) _____ (47)

SHOULDER WEAPONS

- 1. 7/ M-1 Rifles (48)
- 2. 4/ M-14 Rifles (49)
- 3. 4/ M-16 Rifles (50)
- 4. 5/ AR-15 Rifles (51)
- 5. 16/ Other rifles (Please specify make and model.) _____ (52)

Shotguns:

- 1. 4/ Browning (53)
- 2. 6/ Ithaca (54)
- 3. 21/ Remington (55)
- 4. 8/ Winchester (56)
- 5. 6/ Other shotguns (Please specify make and model.) _____ (57)

Small Arms Repair

14. When repair or maintenance work is necessary for your organization's small arms, is this performed by organization employees, employees of a parent organization, employees of another Federal agency, by private contractors, or is some such work performed by two or more of these three methods? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. 23/ Organization employees (62)
- 2. 1/ Parent organization's employees (63)
- 3. 4/ Employees of another Federal agency (If checked, please specify the agency.) (64)

24

- 4. 34/ Private contractors/gunsmiths (65)

15. If any such repair or maintenance work is performed by organization employees, please enter below the number of full-time equivalent organization employees whose primary duties involve small arms repair or maintenance work.

(66-68)

No. of full-time equivalent employees

16. If any such repair or maintenance work is performed by private contractors/gunsmiths, what is the approximate total cost of such repair or maintenance work performed since July 1, 197 (Please check only one.) (69)

- 1. 12/ Less than \$100
- 2. 9/ \$100 - \$500
- 3. 3/ \$501 - \$1000
- 4. 7/ \$1001 - \$5000
- 5. 5/ More than \$5000
- (8) No response

Small Arms Training

17. Does your organization provide, either directly or through another organization, any training in small arms use to newly hired employees whose duties are to involve small arms use? (18)

- 1. 39/ Yes
- 2. 3/ No (If no, please skip to question 31.) (2) No response

18. Is this training provided as "in-house" organization training, through arrangements with another Federal agency, or under contract with a non-Federal organization? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. 32/ "In-house" (19)
- 2. 26/ Another Federal agency (20)
- 3. 5/ Non-Federal (21)

19. If any of the small arms training provided to newly hired employees of your organization is provided through arrangements with another Federal agency, which Federal agency provides such training? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. 7/ Federal Bureau of Investigation (22)
- 2. 21/ Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (23)
- 3. 8/ Other agency(ies) (Please list) (24)

20. How frequently, if at all, are organization employees required to requalify in small arms firing? (Please check only one.) If frequency varies by employee group, please check here 32 and check the frequency applicable to the largest number of employees. (33)

- 1. 1/ Once a month
- 2. 5/ Once a quarter
- 3. 19/ Every six months
- 4. 14/ Annually
- 5. 0/ Every two years
- 6. 0/ Every three years
- 7. 2/ Less frequently than every three years
- 8. 0/ Not at all
- 9. 2/ Other (please specify) _____
- (1) No response

21. Has the frequency of required requalification within the organization been changed since July 1, 1975? (34)

- 1. 8/ Yes
- 2. 35/ No
- (1) No response

22. If yes, did the change increase or decrease the frequency of requalification? (35)

- 1. Increased the frequency
- 2. Decreased the frequency

23. Which, if any, of the following factors caused the change in frequency of requalification? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. Increase/decrease in ammunition availability (36)
- 2. Increase/decrease in range availability (37)
- 3. Increase/decrease in number of employees using small arms (38)
- 4. Management decision that more/less frequent requalification was required (39)
- 5. Increase/decrease in availability of funds (40)
- 6. Other (Please describe.) (41)

24. Does your organization impose any limits on the amount of practice firing with government provided ammunition that small arms qualified employees may engage in? (42)

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
(1) No response

25. When organization employees who use small arms carry out practice firing, is such firing performed at ranges owned/operated by the organization, ranges operated by other Federal civilian agencies, U.S. military ranges, state or local police ranges, private ranges, or elsewhere? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. Range(s) owned/operated by this organization (or a parent organization) (64)
- 2. Ranges operated by other Federal civilian agencies (65)
- 3. U.S. military ranges (66)
- 4. State or local police ranges (67)
- 5. Private ranges (68)
- 6. Elsewhere (Please describe) (69)

26. Are those limits expressed in terms of number of employee duty hours permitted within a specified time period, number of rounds of ammunition that may be fired within a specified time period, number of practice "sessions" that an employee may take during duty hours during a specified time period or in other terms? (Please check all that apply.)

- 1. Number of employee duty hours (If checked, please enter (43)
 ___ duty hours within (44-46)
 ___ months) (47-48)
- 2. Number of rounds fired (If checked, please enter (49)
 ___ rounds fired within (50-54)
 ___ months) (55-56)
- 3. Number of practice "sessions" (If checked, please enter (57)
 ___ sessions within (58-60)
 ___ months) (61-62)
- 4. Other limits (Please describe.) (63)

27. Is "reload" ammunition, i.e., previously fired casings that have been reloaded, used for practice firing? (Please check only one.) (70)

- 1. Yes, always
- 2. Yes, frequently
- 3. Yes, rarely
- 4. No
(1) No response

28. Which, if any, of the following dispositions best describes the way in which spent casings are disposed of after practice or qualification firing? (Please check only one.) (72)

- 1. Discarded at range
- 2. Retrieved and reloaded by organization personnel
- 3. Sold by the organization to commercial dealer who reclaims metal
- 4. Sold by the organization to dealer or manufacturer for reloading
- 5. Disposal is made a responsibility of the employee performing the weapon firing
- 6. Other (please describe) _____
(2) No response

Ammunition

29. Please enter below, by type, the approximate number of rounds and cost of all small arms ammunition purchased by your organization since July 1, 1975.

Type of Ammunition	Purchases since 7/1/75	
	No. of rounds	Purchase cost \$
<u>Non-expanding</u>		
22 caliber	3,197,750	77,706
.223 (5.56mm)	905,120	109,637
7 mm	38,600	4,452
.30	975,970	127,212
.32	114,000	12,189
.357 110 grain	339,750	41,569
.357 125 grain	365,400	47,863
.357 158 grain	1,116,450	133,836
9mm	1,461,680	162,318
.38 95 grain	21,400	2,634
.38 110 grain	6,395,900	532,940
.38 125 grain	927,438	149,211
.38 148 grain	5,879,700	4,371,420
.38 158 grain	7,221,926	540,167
.380	316,350	38,632
.45 185 grain	752,200	89,515
.45 230 grain	1,256,500	169,768

Type of Ammunition	Purchases since 7/1/75	
	No. of rounds	Purchase cost \$
<u>Hollow Point</u>		
22 caliber	334,700	8,687
.223 (5.56 mm)	595,460	75,283
7 mm	50,000	2,380
.30	82,420	17,070
.32	20,000	2,546
.357 110 grain	92,750	10,986
.357 125 grain	1,420,150	265,154
.357 158 grain	62,150	8,875
9 mm	592,200	133,968
.38 95 grain	218,500	17,666
.38 110 grain	5,225,850	646,646
.38 125 grain	1,243,100	144,511
.38 148 grain	7,731,100	597,312
.38 158 grain	1,390,935	127,828
.380	25,600	2,916
.45 185 grain	22,300	2,926
.45 230 grain	10,000	1,185
Other handgun ammunition (please list)		
	3,690,770	342,977
12 gauge #00 buckshot	907,557	164,889
12 gauge #4 buckshot	926,436	189,572
12 gauge #9 buckshot	1,232,050	134,548
12 gauge rifled slug	1,001,395	191,545

30. Is your organization's service round Non-expanding or Hollow Point? (Check one.) (70)

1. Non-expanding
 2. Hollow Point (expanding)
 3. Both
- (1) No response

31 . Which, if any, of the following control methods best describes how small arms ammunition is controlled at the time of practice and qualification/requalification firing? (Please check only one.) (71)

- 1. Employees who are firing are given a fixed number of rounds, the use of which is left to the employee
- 2. Spent casings and unused rounds are required to be returned by the employee so that all rounds issued to the employee may be accounted for
- 3. Employees may draw as many rounds as they wish and their use is left to the employee
- 4. Total spent casings are counted periodically and compared with total issuances and returns during that period
- 5. Other method (Please describe.)

32 . Is the employee permitted some "warm-up" or familiarization firing just before firing for qualification or requalification? (11)

- Yes
- No (If no, please skip to question 46.)

33 . Please indicate below each posture and range (in yards) in which employees fire for record your organization's primary standard weapon for small arms qualification/requalification firing? (Please check each posture that is used and enter the range (in yards) at which firing from that posture is carried out.)

Postures	Range
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prone	_____ yds. (15-17)
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sitting	_____ yds. (18-20)
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kneeling	_____ yds. (21-23)
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standing	_____ yds. (24-26)
5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crouching	_____ yds. (27-29)
6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barricade left (standing)	_____ yds. (30-32)
7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barricade right (standing)	_____ yds. (33-35)
8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barricade over (kneeling)	_____ yds. (36-38)
9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other postures (Please list)	
_____	_____ yds. (39-41)
_____	_____ yds. (42-44)
_____	_____ yds. (45-47)

Please specify make and model of the weapon used at the above ranges:

_____ (48)

34 . Which, if any, of the following possible bases on which requalification requirements might have been developed best describes the basis on which the requirements described in your response to question 46 above were developed? (Please check only one.) (49)

- 1. Recommendation(s) of other Federal civil agency(ies)
- 2. Recommendation(s) of U.S. military organization(s)
- 3. Our organization's experience with the positions filled by employees who carry small arms
- 4. Specific studies conducted by or for this organization
- 5. Other basis (Please describe.)

35. During fiscal year 1979, in about what percent of attempted small arms requalification firings did the employee fail to qualify in the first complete "for record" series of firing?

_____ % (56-58)

If a precise figure is not available, please indicate, by checking the appropriate box, the range within which the percent of unsuccessful requalification attempts probably falls. (Please check only one.) (59)

- 1. 0 to 5 percent
- 2. 6 to 10 percent
- 3. 11 to 20 percent
- 4. 21 to 40 percent
- 5. 41 to 60 percent
- 6. 61 to 80 percent
- 7. Over 80 percent

36. Private Ownership of Weapons

Are organization employees permitted to use privately-owned small arms in performance of their official duties? (60)

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (If no, please skip to question 55.)

37. Are the organization employees who use privately-owned small arms while performing their official duties issued organization-owned weapons as well or are the privately-owned weapons used as substitutes for organization-owned weapons? (Please check only one.) (61)
1. Organization-owned weapons are also issued
 2. Privately-owned weapons are used as substitutes for organization-owned weapons
38. Are the employees using privately-owned weapons in performing their official duties required to use their privately-owned weapons in requalification firing, required to requalify with both their privately-owned weapon and an organization-owned weapon, or are they permitted to requalify with their privately-owned weapon but not required to do so, or are they prohibited from using privately-owned weapons for requalification firing? (Please check only one.) (62)
1. Employees are required to use privately-owned weapons
 2. Employees are required to requalify with both their own and an organization weapon
 3. Employees are permitted, but not required, to use privately-owned weapons
 4. Employees are prohibited from using privately-owned weapons
 1. Varies within organization
39. In which, if any, of the following ways are repairs to privately-owned but officially used weapons made and paid for? (Please check only one.) (63)
1. Repairs are made by the same party or parties that repair organization-owned weapons at no cost to the owning employee
 2. Repairs are made by the same party or parties that repair organization-owned weapons but the owning employee is required to reimburse the organization for the cost of the repairs
 3. Repairs are arranged for by the owning employee and the organization reimburses the employee for the cost of the repairs
 4. Repairs are arranged for by the owning employee who bears the cost of the repairs
40. Approximately how many employees are authorized to carry privately-owned small arms in the performance of their official duties? (64-67)
- 1/2/3/6/6/

LIST OF 44 CIVILIAN ORGANIZATIONS POSSESSING
FEDERAL SMALL ARMS AND INCLUDED IN OUR REVIEW

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- Department of Agriculture:
Forest Service
Office of Inspector General
- Department of Commerce:
Maritime Administration
National Bureau of Standards
National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Investigations and Security
- Department of Health and Human Services:
National Institutes of Health
- Department of Housing and Urban Development:
Inspector General
- Department of the Interior:
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Mines
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
Geological Survey
National Park Service
U.S. Park Police
- Department of Justice:
Drug Enforcement Administration
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Immigration and Naturalization Service
U.S. Marshals Service
Bureau of Prisons
- Department of Labor:
Employment and Training Administration
- Department of State:
International Boundary and Water Commission
Office of Security

Department of Transportation:
Federal Aviation Administration
Federal Railroad Administration

Department of the Treasury:
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Bureau of the Mint
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
Internal Revenue Service
U.S. Customs Service
U.S. Secret Service

General Services Administration
Federal Protective Services
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Gallery of Art
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Smithsonian Institution
Tennessee Valley Authority
Veterans Administration

NONEXECUTIVE BRANCH

Government Printing Office
U.S. Capitol Police
U.S. Postal Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
P.O. Box 2417
Washington, DC 20013

1420

SEP 9 1980



Mr. Henry Eschwege, Director
Community and Economic Development Division
United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Eschwege:

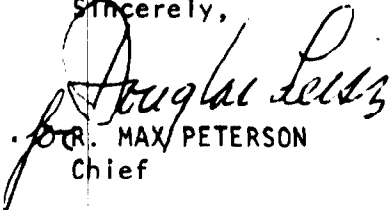
The Secretary of Agriculture has designated the Forest Service to prepare a reply for the Department to the draft GAO Report, "Review of Federal Civilian Agencies Management of Small Arms," transmitted by your letter of August 7, 1980.

The Department of Agriculture concurs in the recommendation on page 21. It is suggested that the recommendation assign or specify the Office of Management and Budget as the leader of the interagency committee rather than "some other well suited agency."

We believe that with the leadership of OMB of this special interagency committee, uniform and standard management practices can be developed and implemented that will provide Government-wide management guidance for improved efficiency and effectiveness at reduced costs.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this draft report.

Sincerely,


MAX PETERSON
Chief



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Assistant Secretary for Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

AUG 28 1980

Mr. Henry Eschwege
Director
Community and Economic
Development Division
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Eschwege:

The Secretary has asked me to review and comment on your draft report concerning Federal civilian agencies' management of small arms.

After receiving the comments of concerned agencies of the Department of Commerce, I agree that the report is timely and provides a much needed focus on the management of small arms by Federal civilian agencies. I would suggest, however, that there probably is a greater standardization of small arms than your report indicates. In the Department of Commerce we have in storage a few older model small arms, which are serviceable and held in reserve to replace more modern weapons which require maintenance from time to time.

For the sake of continuity, uncontested experience and expertise, I believe the Department of the Treasury, rather than the Office of Management and Budget, should be the oversight agency for both executive and nonexecutive branches. They are also ideally suited as the focal point for coordinating agencies to explore the issues enumerated under Recommendations.

Thank you for providing us an opportunity to review and comment on this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elsa A. Porter".

Elsa A. Porter
Assistant Secretary
for Administration



U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C. 20530

SEPTEMBER 10, 1980

Mr. William J. Anderson
Director
General Government Division
United States General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter is in response to your request to the Attorney General for the comments of the Department of Justice (Department) on your draft report entitled "Review of Federal Civilian Agencies Management of Small Arms."

The draft report presents an overall analysis of data collected from responses to a General Accounting Office (GAO) questionnaire. The conclusions are general in nature and therefore preclude the Department from responding to specific issues. We generally agree with GAO's recommendation that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should establish an interagency committee to examine the various options available to improving the management of small arms. Although we recognize that certain organizations--the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Drug Enforcement Administration among them--have specific missions and operate under unique conditions and environments that dictate the specifics of their small arms policies, some areas of standardization may be achievable. Obviously, it would be difficult to establish a single set of guidelines that would enable each organization to accomplish its mission in the safest and most expeditious and economical manner.

If OMB agrees to explore the possibility of developing central policy and guidance for the management of small arms, we strongly endorse the interagency committee concept. Additionally, we hope that each organization affected will have an opportunity to comment on the committee's findings prior to implementation.

With respect to the methodology of the study, we suggest that GAO or the select committee established by OMB consider contacting State and local law enforcement agencies regarding the management of their small arms as a means of gaining additional perspective on the various issues surfaced in the report. This additional information could contribute significantly to the committee's findings and recommendations.

With respect to the issues raised in the report, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been confronted with virtually every aspect of weapons management discussed in the report and a careful, systematic assessment of its small arms

program is a continuing process. For example, firearms training and qualification standards are established based on the professional opinion of the FBI firearms staff at the FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia. These standards are designed to provide agents with the accuracy potential necessary to carry out their responsibilities during the high stress levels of an actual gun battle. The standards are not only concerned with the protection of FBI agents, but also with the protection of innocent individuals who may be nearby. Actual gun battles involving FBI personnel are reviewed and analyzed for the purpose of developing new and better techniques as well as new courses to meet such challenges.

With respect to the acquisition of small arms by the FBI, prior to obtaining any type of weapon for the FBI arsenal, considerable research is conducted of all similar weapons on the market. Acquisition is made only after satisfying the Weapons Committee of the FBI Academy as to the merits of the weapon. Based on this continuing research, standard issue handguns and shoulder weapons are continually being evaluated in an attempt to maintain the state of the art in the firearms field.

As of September 30, 1979, the FBI had approximately 20,100 small arms on hand, which is approximately 2.6 small arms per agent. This ratio is not viewed as excessive considering the training responsibilities of the FBI Academy, the mission of the Special Weapons and Tactics Teams, and the operation of the field offices.

All FBI ammunition, except small amounts for special purposes, is purchased from the ammunition supply schedule of the Department. According to the GAO report, this is the most cost effective method of procurement.

With regard to the use of the hollow point bullet, consideration governing selection and use of military weapons differ from those of law enforcement in certain respects. In any situation involving the use of firearms in a contained area with innocent persons present, the factors of prime concern logically become (1) the ability to hit and neutralize the subject with a minimum of shots, and (2) the use of a projectile which will not penetrate the subject or other material and thereafter strike and injure innocent persons. The choice of the current FBI hollow point bullet was based on scientifically developed evidence that this bullet meets the above criteria.

As a final comment, we wish to reiterate our support to improve the management of small arms, but at the same time we believe some degree of flexibility must be permitted so that the individual mission capabilities of the various agencies are not seriously hampered.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft report. Should you desire any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Rooney, Acting
for Kevin D. Rooney
Assistant Attorney General
for Administration



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Assistant Secretary
for Administration

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

September 5, 1980

Mr. Henry Eschwege
Director, Community and Economic
Development Division
U.S. General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Eschwege:

This letter is in response to your request for our comments on the General Accounting Office (GAO) report, "Review Of Federal Civilian Agencies Management Of Small Arms," dated August 7, 1980.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) fully endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the report. In particular, we support the recommendation to create an interagency committee to treat the findings and recommendations. Because of our sizeable involvement with weapons within certain elements of the Department, we request that DOT be considered for membership on such a committee or at least be given observer status.

This report is timely and beneficial in that it gives added impetus to a study currently underway within my office. Our study addresses many of the issues highlighted in the report; such as, the need for standards and criteria governing the training and qualifications for the use of firearms, the proper ratio of small arms to employees that should exist, and the need for strict accountability for all weapons. The most significant aspect of the study is focused on the question of whether or not the program for the management of weapons within the Department should be centralized in the Office of the Secretary which is in line with what the GAO report recommends. If this proposal is accepted there is no doubt that problems such as those described in the report, as well as other related ones, could be dealt with in a much more effective and economical manner.

Although outside the scope of this report, we are also giving major consideration to the possibility of requesting enabling legislation that would vest in the Secretary of Transportation the authority for determining what elements or functions within DOT would be authorized to possess and/or use firearms. That, in itself, would go a long way in curbing the real and potential problems associated with firearms and provide a strong foundation on which to build a weapon's management program.

Sincerely,



Edward W. Scott, Jr.



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

SEP 8 1980

Dear Mr. Anderson:

We have reviewed the draft report on Federal civilian agencies' management of small arms. The report raises many issues of great concern to the enforcement bureaus of the Department of the Treasury.

We at Treasury would be pleased to participate with an interagency committee to further inquire into the issues raised. As a matter of fact, many of these issues are currently under study within Treasury in connection with the promulgation of use of force standards.

Kindly advise us of any further activity in this regard in order that we may participate.

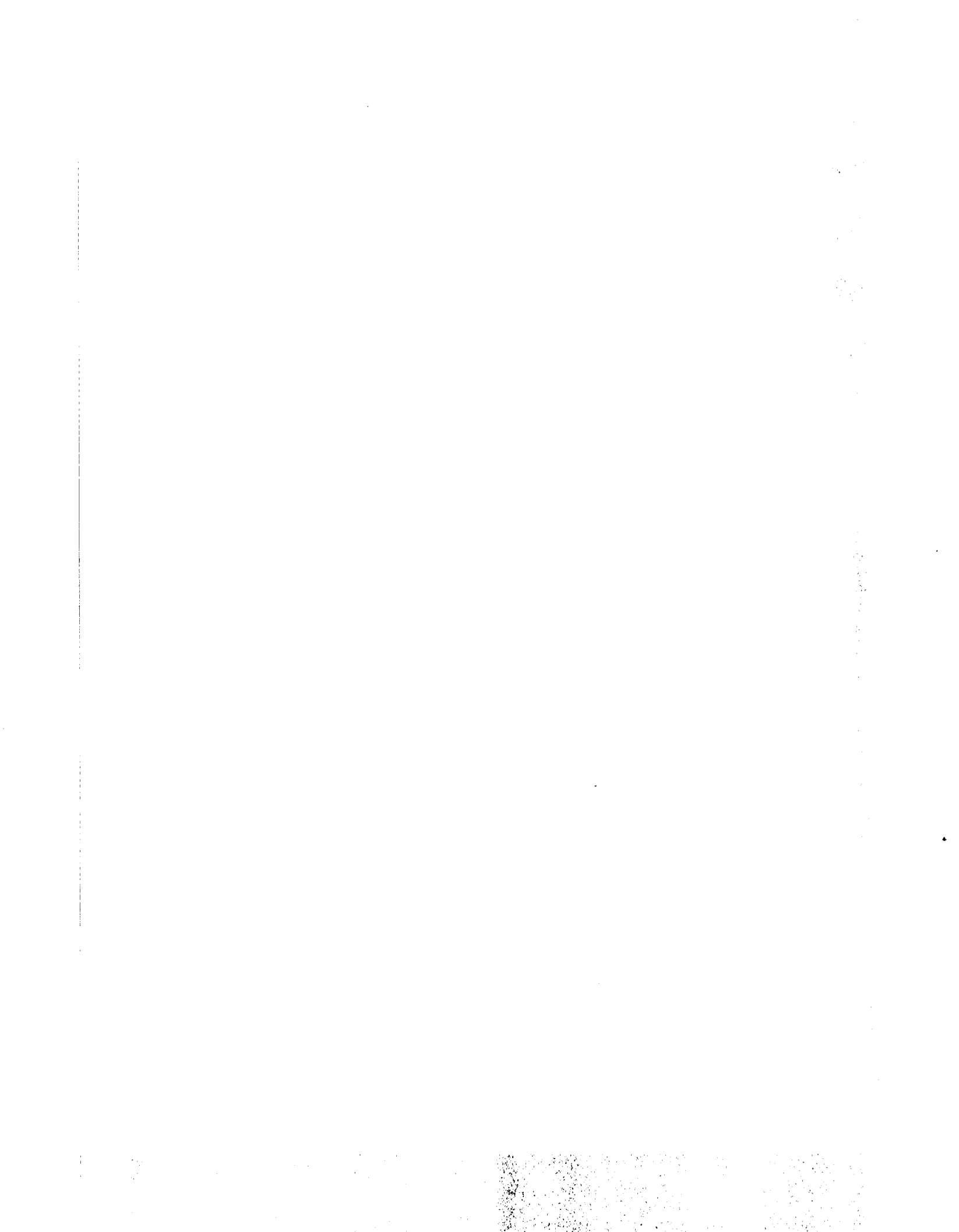
Sincerely,

Bette B. Anderson

Mr. William J. Anderson
Director
General Government Division
United States General Accounting
Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

cc: Eugene H. Essner, Director
Office of Audit

(947380)





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