



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

November 21, 1997

The Honorable Valerie Lau
Inspector General
U. S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room 2412 Main Treasury Building
Washington, D.C. 20220

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the audit function of the Department of Treasury Office of Inspector General (OIG) in effect for the year ended September 30, 1997. Our review was conducted in conformity with standards and guidelines established by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE). We tested compliance with the OIG's system of quality control to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests included a review of audits.

In performing our review, we have given consideration to the policy statement on quality control and external reviews, dated April 1997 issued by the PCIE. That statement indicates that an OIG's quality control policies and procedures should be appropriately comprehensive and suitably designed to provide reasonable assurance that the objectives of quality control will be met. It also recognizes that the nature, extent and formality of an OIG's system of quality control depends on various factors such as the size of the OIG, the location of its offices, the nature of the work and its organizational structure.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the audit function of the Department of Treasury in effect for the year ended September 30, 1997, has been designed in accordance with the quality standards established by the PCIE and was being complied with for the year then ended to provide the OIG with reasonable assurance of conforming with professional standards in the conduct of its audits.

Thomas R. Bloom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. R. Bloom", is written over the printed name.

Inspector General