



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON D C 20548

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B-205053

November 23, 1981

To the President of the Senate and the
Speaker of the House of Representatives

On October 20, 1981, the President's second special message for fiscal year 1982 was transmitted to the Congress pursuant to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. The special message proposes 59 deferrals of budget authority totalling \$147.0 million as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

D82-27 The White House Office
 Salaries and Expenses
 1120110

D82-28 Special Assistance to the President
 Salaries and Expenses
 1121454

D82-29 Council on Environmental Quality and
 Office of Environmental Quality
 Salaries and Expenses
 1121453

D82-30 Office of Policy Development
 (Domestic Policy Staff)
 Salaries and expenses
 1122200

D82-31 National Security Council
 Salaries and expenses
 1122000

D82-32 Office of Administration
 Salaries and expenses
 1120038

D82-33 Office of Federal Procurement Policy
 Salaries and expenses
 1120201

D82-34 Office of Science and Technology Policy
 Salaries and expenses
 1122600



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OGC-82-3

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D82-35 U.S. Trade Representative
Salaries and expenses
1120400

According to the cumulative report transmitted by the Office of Management and Budget on November 10, 1981, the funds deferred in this account have been released.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

D82-36 Foreign Assistance Program
Expenses, Public Law 480, Foreign
Assistance Programs, Agriculture
12X2274

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

D82-37 Cemeterial Expenses, Army
Salaries and expenses
21X1805
2121805

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - CIVIL

D82-38 Corps of Engineers - Civil
General Investigations
96X3121

D82-39 Corps of Engineers - Civil
Construction, General
96X3122

D82-40 Corps of Engineers - Civil
General Expenses
96X3124

D82-41 Corps of Engineers - Civil
Special Recreation Use Fees
96X5007

D82-42 Soldiers' and Airmen's Home
Operation and Maintenance
8428931

According to the cumulative report transmitted by the Office of Management and Budget on November 10, 1981, the funds deferred in this account have been released.

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Agency officials also told us that the amount listed in the special message as other budgetary resources (\$120,000) consists primarily of reimbursements by employees for meals and lodging. Since the \$120,000 is an annual estimate, only about \$16,000 would be received during the period under the Continuing Resolution.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

D82-43 Social Security Administration
 Refugee Assistance
 751/20473

The Office of Management and Budget released the \$10 million deferred in D82-43 on November 3, 1981. Agency officials also told us that the special message should have reflected total budgetary resources of \$188,208,500. That amount includes the funds appropriated under the Continuing Resolution (\$133,940,500). As of early November, the agency has obligated \$137,354,000.

D82-44 Office of Refugee Resettlement
 Cuban and Haitian Entrants
 Reception and Processing
 75X0174

On November 6, 1981, the Office of Management and Budget released \$2.5 million of the deferred funds (\$4.9 million). Agency officials also told us that the special message should list total budgetary resources of \$33.030 million. That amount includes \$2.8 million available under the Continuing Resolution. The \$2.8 million represents 14 percent of the total amount appropriated for fiscal year 1982 under the Continuing Resolution (\$20 million), and under OMB Bulletin 82-1, is automatically apportioned without action by OMB. Agency officials told us that the \$2.8 million is available and is being obligated.

D82-45 Office of Refugee Resettlement
 Cuban and Haitian Entrants,
 Domestic Assistance
 75X0175

We have discovered that some funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services, Cuban and Haitian Entrants, Domestic Assistance, account were not made available to the Department in fiscal year 1981, and continued to be reserved during fiscal year 1982 before this special message was reported. After an examination of this account, we conclude that a deferral message should have been transmitted to

the Congress in fiscal year 1981, and that such a message also was required at the beginning of fiscal year 1982.

Congress appropriated a total of \$190 million in no-year funds in fiscal year 1980 and 1981 to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide assistance for resettlement of Cuban and Haitian entrants in the United States, based on provisions of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-442. The appropriations are to be used to reimburse States for costs of cash assistance, medical assistance, assistance to unaccompanied minors, social services, and related administrative costs.

As of January 1981, \$137 million of the \$190 million had been appropriated by the Congress and apportioned by the Office of Management and Budget to HHS. The remaining \$53 million was appropriated on June 5, 1981, as part of the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1981. The agency requested an apportionment from OMB of the \$53 million on June 20, 1981. However, OMB did not apportion the funds; rather, it returned the apportionment request to HHS on July 9, 1981, with a request that HHS review its program plan and better explain how it planned to use the funds.

On September 15, 1981, HHS resubmitted a request for apportionment. HHS asked that approximately \$16 million be apportioned and that approximately \$37 million be deferred. The deferral was to cover unobligated funds budgeted for assistance to unaccompanied minors (\$17 million), and for a contingency reserve (\$20 million). OMB approved this request on September 29, 1981. However, no special message reporting this deferral was submitted to the Congress until October 20, 1981, the date of this special message.

A deferral message should have been submitted to Congress before this special message was reported. When OMB failed to apportion the \$53 million provided in the June 5 appropriation and returned the apportionment request to HHS on July 9, 1981, a deferral message of \$53 million was required. A supplementary message adjusting the deferral to \$37 million should have been reported when OMB finally apportioned \$16 million on September 29, 1981.

Agency officials also estimate that out of the total \$153 million apportioned in fiscal year 1981, approximately \$10.5 million remained unobligated at the end of fiscal year 1981 and carried over into fiscal year 1982. The funds did not appear

on the original apportionment form because the carry-over amount was not known when funds were first apportioned for fiscal year 1982. The agency officials also told us that they recently requested OMB to reappportion the funds. A deferral message should be submitted if OMB does not reappportion the funds. In addition, the officials told us that \$9.9 million is available under the Continuing Resolution and is being obligated.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

D82-46 Neighborhoods, Voluntary Associations,
and Consumer Protection
Housing Counseling Assistance
8620156

D82-47 Policy Development and Research
Research and Technology
862/30108
861/20108

D82-48 Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
Fair Housing Assistance
86X0144
862/30144

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

D82-49 Bureau of Land Management
Acquisition, Construction, and Maintenance
14X1110

D82-50 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Construction and Anadromous Fish
14X1612

D82-51 Geological Survey
Surveys, Investigations, and Research
1420804

D82-52 Geological Survey
Exploration of National Petroleum
Reserve in Alaska
14X0805

D82-53 Office of Surface Mining Reclamation
and Enforcement
Regulation and Technology
1421801

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- D82-54 Bureau of Mines
Mines and Minerals
1420959
14X0959
- D82-55 Office of Territorial Affairs
Administration of Territories
14X0412
- D82-56 Office of Territorial Affairs
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
14X0414

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

- D82-57 Acquisition, Operation, and Maintenance of
Buildings Abroad, Special Foreign Currency
Program
19X0538

Agency officials told us that the deferral would be accommodated by postponing a construction project in India and maintenance and minor repairs of properties in India and Pakistan.

- D82-58 Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular
Service
1920522
- D82-59 International Commissions
Salaries and Expenses, International
Boundary and Water Commission, United
States and Mexico
1921069
- D82-60 International Commissions
Construction, International Boundary
and Water Commission, United States
and Mexico
19X1078
- D82-61 International Commissions
American Sections, International Commissions
1921082

ACTION

- D82-62 Operating Expenses,
Domestic Programs
4420103

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ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY

D82-63 Arms Control and Disarmament Activities
9420100

BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

D82-64 Salaries and Expenses
9521145

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM THE BLIND
AND OTHER SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

D82-65 Salaries and Expenses
9522000

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

D82-66 National Archives and Records Service
Operating Expenses
National Historical Publications
Grants, GSA
47X0300

D82-67 Federal Property Resources Service
Operating Expenses
4720533

D82-68 Consumer Information Center
4720104

Agency officials told us that in addition to the effects noted in the special message, the deferral will reduce other contractual services such as consumer opinion surveys and media reports to assess the effectiveness of the Consumer Information Center's program.

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

D82-69 Salaries and Expenses
5520100

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

D82-70 Salaries and Expenses
4620100

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D82-71 Contribution to the Delaware River
Basin Commission
4620102

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN

D82-72 Contribution to Interstate Commission on the
Potomac River Basin
4620446

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

D82-73 Salaries and Expenses
4620500

D82-74 Contribution to the Susquehanna River
Basin Commission
4620501

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AGENCY

D82-75 Salaries and Expenses
6720201
67X0201

D82-76 Center for Cultural and Technical
Interchange Between East and West
6720202

JAPAN-UNITED STATES FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION

D82-77 Japan-United States Friendship Trust Fund
95X8025

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

D82-78 Salaries and Expenses
9522200

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

D82-79 Salaries and Expenses
9522400

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

D82-80 Research and Related Activities
492/30100

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D82-81 Scientific Activities Overseas
 (Special Foreign Currency Program)
 492/30102

D82-82 Science and Engineering Education Activities
 4920106

Agency officials told us that the deferral will have an adverse impact on scientific and engineering education activities. Various educational programs, such as training seminars for science teachers and curriculum development grants, previously have been funded under this program. The deferral will result in eliminating all activities except educational fellowships and no new fellowships will be funded.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

D82-83 Payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment
 Corporation
 9521300

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

D82-84 Salaries and Expenses
 9020400

WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

D82-85 Water Resources Planning
 85X0100

We have reviewed the President's second special message. Except as noted above, we have identified no additional information that would be useful to the Congress in its consideration of the President's proposals and we believe that the proposed deferrals are in accordance with existing authority.



Comptroller General
of the United States