

146437



**Comptroller General  
of the United States**

Washington, D.C. 20548

B-246096.5

April 22, 1992

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

On March 10, 1992, the President submitted to the Congress his fourth special impoundment message for fiscal year 1992. This message reports 30 proposed rescissions of budget authority. We have reviewed these proposals and found them to be in accordance with the Impoundment Control Act, 2 U.S.C. § 681, et seq., as amended.

Enclosure I provides specific information with regard to nine of the rescissions which we believe will be useful to the Congress in its examination of the message. Enclosure II provides a list of the proposed rescissions as reported by the President.

*Milton J. Fowler*

Acting Comptroller General  
of the United States



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Enclosures

GAO/OGC-92-6

054140/146437

COMMENTS ON THE FOURTH SPECIAL MESSAGE**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**R92-3**                    Operation and Maintenance, Army  
 Amount Proposed for Rescission: \$92,850,000  
2122020

According to the most recent apportionment statement for this account total budgetary resources are \$18,259,415,000 and not \$17,832,500,000 as shown in the message.

**R92-4**                    Operation and Maintenance, Navy  
 Amount Proposed for Rescission: \$104,650,000  
1721804 172/41804

We note that of the total amount proposed for rescission, \$26,560,000 are annual funds which lapse at the end of this fiscal year.

**R92-7**                    Operation and Maintenance, Defense Agencies  
 Amount Proposed for Rescission: \$20,200,000  
9720100

In one of the items proposed for rescission, inventory of real property in Hawaii owned or controlled by the Department of Defense, Congress provided \$750,000. Due to an analyst's error, the OMB justification accompanying the rescission message proposes rescinding \$800,000. (The proposed bill language correctly identifies \$750,000 for this item.) Also due to an analyst's error, the OMB justification indicates a rescission of \$800,000 for an engineering and environmental study in Astoria, Oregon. The Congress, however, provided \$850,000 for this project. Thus, the net effect of the errors is zero.

**R92-16**                    Procurement, Defense Agencies  
 Amount Proposed for Rescission: \$154,800,000  
972/40300

GAO recently issued reports regarding two of the four projects in which funds are proposed for rescission. For the Mentor-Protege Pilot program, GAO issued its statutory report evaluating the implementation of the program pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1991, Pub. L. 101-510, § 831, 104 Stat. 1611 (1990). GAO/NSIAD-92-135, March 30, 1992. The GAO also issued a report on the Red River Depot, Texas, and its workload. GAO/NSIAD-90-184, August 20, 1990.



**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**R92-31**

Housing Programs  
Flexible Subsidy Fund  
Amount Proposed for  
Rescission: \$25,000,000  
86X4044

According to the message, the estimated program effect "would be minimal, since the program level after the rescission would be almost two-and-a-half times above the level of 1991." Agency officials have pointed out that the above-quoted effect could be misleading since little funding occurred in fiscal year 1991 and most funding occurred in fiscal year 1992.

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**R92-33**

Federal Railroad Administration  
Local Rail Freight Assistance  
Amount Proposed for  
Rescission: \$9,880,000  
69X0714

According to the message, this rescission proposal is being requested because the program has "fulfilled the purpose for which it was created." We note, however, that in fiscal year 1992 a total of 27 States have applied for grants to the Federal Railroad Administration for the \$9.88 million proposed for rescission. In total these states have requested approximately \$23 million in grants from the Local Rail Freight Assistance program.

**CONTENTS OF SPECIAL MESSAGE**  
**(in thousands of dollars)**  
(as reported by the President)

ENCLOSURE II

<u>RESCISSION NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>BUDGET AUTHORITY</u>
	<b>Department of Commerce:</b>	
	National Telecommunications and Information Administration:	
R92-2	Public telecommunications facilities, planning and construction.....	21,425
	<b>Department of Defense:</b>	
	Operation and maintenance:	
R92-3	Operation and maintenance, Army.....	92,850
R92-4	Operation and maintenance, Navy.....	104,650
R92-5	Operation and maintenance, Marine Corps.....	22,000
R92-6	Operation and maintenance, Air Force.....	4,500
R92-7	Operation and maintenance, Defense Agencies.....	20,200
	<b>Procurement:</b>	
R92-9	Procurement of weapons and tracked combat vehicles, Army.....	110,000
R92-10	Procurement of ammunition, Army.....	1,000
R92-11	Aircraft procurement, Navy.....	262,000
R92-12	Weapons procurement, Navy.....	13,200
R92-13	Shipbuilding and conversion, Navy.....	238,100
R92-14	Other procurement, Navy.....	41,300
R92-15	Procurement, Marine Corps.....	40,200
R92-16	Procurement, Defense Agencies.....	154,800
	<b>Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation:</b>	
R92-18	Research, development, test, and evaluation, Army.....	102,200
R92-19	Research, development, test, and evaluation, Navy.....	140,600
R92-20	Research, development, test, and evaluation, Air Force.....	127,100
R92-21	Research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense Agencies.....	375,900
	<b>Military Construction:</b>	
R92-22	Military construction, Army.....	9,050
R92-23	Military construction, Navy.....	17,400
R92-24	Military construction, Air Force.....	6,000
R92-25	Military construction, Defense agencies.....	48,000
R92-26	Military construction, Army National Guard.....	16,565
R92-27	Military construction, Air National Guard.....	306
R92-28	Military construction, Army Reserve.....	2,749
R92-29	Military construction, Naval Reserve.....	36,000

**CONTENTS OF SPECIAL MESSAGE**  
**(in thousands of dollars)**  
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ENCLOSURE II

<u>RESCISSION NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>BUDGET AUTHORITY</u>
	<b>Department of Health and Human Services:</b>	
	<b>Health Resources and Services Administration:</b>	
R92-30	Health resources and services.....	25,000
	<b>Department of Housing and Urban Development:</b>	
	<b>Housing Programs:</b>	
R92-31	Flexible subsidy fund.....	25,000
	<b>Department of the Interior:</b>	
	<b>Bureau of Indian Affairs:</b>	
R92-32	Operation of Indian programs.....	5,880
	<b>Department of Transportation:</b>	
	<b>Federal Railroad Administration:</b>	
R92-33	Local rail freight assistance.....	9,880
		<hr/> 2,073,855