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Legal Interpretation

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Chief, Medical Staff

DATE: 26 June 1952

FROM : General Counsel

SUBJECT: Medical Support

1. In reference to our discussion yesterday of your staff study of 10 June, I am returning it with the following suggestions.

2. While both of your main thoughts have to do with expansion of medical support, they are based on rather different considerations, i.e., the "line-of-duty" ruling is an expansion by interpretation of existing medical assistance to employees; the payment of medical treatment for dependents of employees and for necessary travel incident thereto is a new recommendation which has, however, some Congressional history, as I mentioned. The justification in each case is somewhat different. I think, therefore, the problems might better be subjects of separate recommendations, and it seems to me that the policy rulings would properly be in the sphere of the Career Service Committee of which, of course, the DD/A is chairman. Since Personnel is working on a parallel approach, you may want to join your recommendations with theirs.

3. We agree with your line of thought, but feel that the legal aspects should be given careful consideration by the determining authority who, in administrative matters of this importance, probably should be the Director.



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Enclosure

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON

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