

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Honorable  
Lindsay C. Warren  
Comptroller General of the  
United States  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Warren:

Submitted for your consideration is the question as to whether this Agency has the authority under Section 10 of Public Law 110 and Title 5, U. S. Code Sec. 150, to reimburse certain prospective employees for expenses incurred in securing the required medical examination to determine physical eligibility for appointment to duty.

Circumstances peculiar to this Agency would appear to make it advantageous and to the interest and benefit of the government to bear the cost of such examinations. Specifically, this Agency requires a security clearance for each applicant before final action is taken to appoint him to duty, and the cost of processing the necessary security check exceeds two hundred dollars. After clearance, and incident to appointment, the applicant is examined as to physical eligibility. This examination is normally conducted at a Federal or State installation at no expense to the prospective employee; however, in a few cases such facilities are not available in the area where the applicant resides, and in other cases available State or Federal facilities cannot be utilized because of specific security requirements incident to the employment of a particular individual.

As can be seen from the foregoing, there is a possibility that a prospective employee may not satisfactorily pass his medical examination, thereby prohibiting appointment, and the cost of processing security clearance amounts to a loss to the Government. Accordingly, steps are being taken to have applicants examined

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prior to the institution of security clearance action and it would therefore appear that the Government would benefit in bearing the cost incurred by the applicant in those cases where the services of a private physician must be utilized. In considering this matter, there should be kept in mind the fact that employment is not assured by passing the required medical examination when conducted prior to security check.

The early furnishing of your opinion in the matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

WALTER B. SMITH  
Director of Central Intelligence