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ENCLOSURE A



Military Drug Abuse Control Program  
Activities In Continental  
United States B 16403(2)

Department of Defense

BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES

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assignments, etc , of individuals granted exemption. Statistics provided to us by the tenant division showed that, where applicable, such modifications usually--but not always--had been made

Marine Corps officers and enlisted personnel interviewed mentioned many of the same factors cited by Navy personnel as detracting from the effectiveness of the exemption program. (See p. 17.) Also the base organization followed a practice which might prevent some individuals from coming forward to seek exemption and assistance with a drug problem--those granted exemption were routinely interviewed by representatives of the Provost Marshal to determine the nature and scope of their drug involvement.

#### TYPES OF DISCHARGES AWARDED

Provisions of the various amnesty or exemption programs generally protected participants from separation from the services under less than honorable conditions. However, each of the services had a special code which, in most instances, was cited on the DD form 214 separation papers to indicate that the specific reason for the administrative discharge was drug abuse.

At two Army installations separation program number 384 was cited on the DD-214 to indicate that the specific reason for discharge was unfitness because of drug addiction or habitual use.

At an Air Force base, none of the exemption program participants had been separated, but a cognizant official told us that the DD-214 for Air Force drug abusers would cite separation designation number (SDN) 384. At the Air Force Special Treatment Center, however, the Commander advised us that drug abusers were discharged for unsuitability because of character and behavioral disorders or apathy; these reasons were indicated on the DD-214 by SDNs 264, 265, or 46A.

Most of the Navy and Marine Corps personnel separated from the Navy's drug rehabilitation centers were discharged for reason of unfitness because of drug abuse; this specific reason was indicated on the DD-214s by "code 384."



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES:

We have prepared a report to the Congress on the emphasis needed on the Government's efforts to standardize data elements and codes for computer systems. We think you will find this report of interest, and we are enclosing a copy for your information and use.

The report contains recommendations regarding the need for more attention toward the development and use of data standards which could help reduce the high costs of collecting, processing, and disseminating data to Federal agencies. The report suggests that each agency incorporate Federal data standards when designing new systems and/or redesigning old ones. Also, each agency needs to

- identify agency needs in those areas where data standards would be most beneficial,
- accept responsibility for developing data standards in areas which they have an interest in, and
- support and cooperate with the Department of Commerce in the Government-wide program for data element standardization.

We shall be pleased to provide additional information about our report if desired.

*James B. Stacts*

Comptroller General  
of the United States

Enclosure

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