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

B-195757

January 21, 1980

[Navy Bid Requirements For Drydock and Topping Work]

The Honorable Edward Hidalgo  
The Secretary of the Navy  
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We have received the Assistant Secretary's letter of November 28, 1979, responding to our recommendation for corrective action in Norfolk Shipbuilding & Drydock Corporation, 58 Comp. Gen. \_\_\_, 79-2 CPD 214. In effect, we recommended that firms wanting to bid only for all the specified overhaul work, that is both topside and drydock work, be permitted to do so without having to commit themselves to perform a divisible portion of the work.

The Navy now proposes to eliminate the requirement for separately bidding the topside work where a bid for all (drydock and topside) work also is submitted. However, the Navy intends to continue to require a separate bid for drydock work from any firm bidding on the combination basis.

We appreciate your desire to enhance competition for the topside work by enabling firms without drydock facilities to compete for only topside work in combination with a separate drydock work bid. However, we feel compelled to advise you that while the Navy may request firms that submit combination bids to submit separate bids for the drydock work and/or topside work, a low combination bid that fails to bid separately for drydock or topside work, may not be rejected as indicated in our prior decision.

Sincerely yours,

*Milton J. Doerflinger*

For The Comptroller General  
of the United States

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