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

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January 15, 1971



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Examination of Statements

Dear Mr. Broyhill:

~~In response to your letter of October 1, 1970, we have examined into statements contained in a letter from Nationwide Building Maintenance, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia, to you concerning late payments on invoices and a claim for payment for Government-contracted work.~~ The invoices in question, except one whose existence could not be confirmed, have been paid, and the claim has been appealed to the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals.

We examined into the payments for services at three Government agencies in the Washington metropolitan area to ascertain whether settlement had been made on a timely basis. We found that in most instances Nationwide had been paid within a month after it had performed its services. Details on the individual payments are presented below.

SERVICES FOR GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

On September 1, 1970, the General Services Administration received Nationwide's invoice for \$2,290 for August services under contract GS-03B-12641. The invoice was paid on September 17, 1970.

Nationwide stated that it had not received payment of \$1,101 for July and August services under contract GS-03B-12691. The agency cannot locate an invoice in the amount of \$1,101 for such services. The agency did pay about \$7,000 on August 14, 1970, for July 1970 services and about \$7,000 on September 10, 1970, for August 1970 services. The agency also paid \$440 for overtime services provided during July and August.

3 SERVICES FOR THE NAVY

On August 29, 1970, Nationwide submitted to the Naval Ordnance Laboratory a \$9,491 invoice for August services under contract N62477-70-C-0176. On September 9, 1970, the laboratory deducted \$204 for services not performed. Naval Laboratory personnel then submitted adjusted documents to the Naval Regional Finance Center, Washington, D.C., on September 15, 1970, where a check for \$9,287 was issued to Nationwide on September 30, 1970. Payment was made within 21 days after the adjustment. 2371

Nationwide submitted two separate invoices on July 31 and August 29, 1970, for services at the Quantico Marine Corps Base during July and August under contract N62477-70-C-1006. Each invoice 2372

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was incomplete and was submitted to the Finance Center instead of to Quantico. The Finance Center notified the contractor and re-routed the invoices to Quantico where they were processed for payment. Payment of the July invoice was further delayed because it lacked appropriate accounting data and had to be reprocessed at Quantico. Nationwide was notified of the reason for the delay. The Finance Center paid an adjusted \$5,660 on the July invoice and paid \$6,344 on the August invoice on October 2 and September 28, 1970, respectively, or within 23 days after Nationwide had supplied required Work Completion Reports and Quantico had supplied the proper accounting data for the July voucher.

SERVICES FOR THE ARMY

Nationwide submitted an \$846 invoice dated June 30, 1970, covering services performed at Cameron Station from April 20 through June 30, 1970, under contract DABG03-70-M-5823. According to Army officials, the certificate of services performed was misrouted and was not checked upon until receipt of a complaint from your office. Payment was expedited and was made on October 6, 1970.

Nationwide submitted a \$6,521 invoice dated September 2, 1970, for services at Fort George G. Meade during August 1970 under contract DABBO5-71-C-0016, and the invoice was paid on September 15, 1970, within 13 days after receipt.

Nationwide stated that in March 1970 it submitted a claim under contract DABBO5-70-C-0020 for services at Fort George G. Meade and had not received any word on the claim until late August 1970. The contracting officer told us that he had had various discussions with Nationwide, and, on November 24, 1970, rendered his decision. On December 21, 1970, Nationwide appealed the decision on the claim to the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals, Docket No. 15961.

During our review we examined pertinent documents and procedures and held discussions with responsible officials at agency installations and with the president of Nationwide.

Copies of this letter will be sent for information purposes, as authorized by you, to the Administrator of the General Services, the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Logistics), and

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the Comptroller of the Navy. The document you furnished to us is being returned as you requested. We will be pleased to provide further assistance if desired.

Sincerely yours,


Assistant Comptroller General
of the United States

Enclosure

The Honorable Joel T. Broyhill
House of Representatives

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