

132654



Comptroller General  
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548



132654

B-224882

April 7, 1987

To the President of the Senate and the  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

This letter reports on the status of budget authority that was proposed for rescission by the President in his third special message for fiscal year 1987, January 5, 1987, but for which the Congress did not pass rescission bills as defined in section 1011 of the Impoundment Control Act (the Act). All budget authority withheld pursuant to the rescission proposals submitted in the third message has been released by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for obligation.

In the third message, the President proposed 73 rescissions of budget authority. The activities for which the funds proposed for rescission were provided are set forth in the enclosed listing which was submitted by the President with his third message.

Section 1012(b) of the Act requires that funds proposed for rescission be made available for obligation unless the Congress completes action on rescission bills within the 45-day period of continuous congressional session following the day such proposal is received by the Congress. For the rescission proposals submitted in the third message, the 45-day period ended on March 15, 1987, without the Congress having passed such a bill.

In three instances, amounts proposed for rescission in the third message were impermissibly reimposed and should not have been withheld from obligation. The Administration reimposed \$6 million pursuant to Rescission Proposal No. R87-2, \$2,391,615 pursuant to Rescission Proposal No. R87-27, and at least \$6,696,200 pursuant to Rescission Proposal No. R87-40.

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We have confirmed that on March 16, 1987, all funds proposed for rescission, including those amounts impermissibly withheld from obligation, were made available by OMB for obligation by the agencies to which they were appropriated.

*for* *Sheldon J. Davis*  
Comptroller General  
of the United States

Enclosure

**CONTENTS OF SPECIAL MESSAGE**  
as reported by the President  
(in thousands of dollars)

<u>RESCISSION NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>BUDGET AUTHORITY</u>
<b>Department of Agriculture:</b>		
<b>Agricultural Research Service:</b>		
R87-1	Buildings and facilities.....	28,000
<b>Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service:</b>		
R87-2	Rural clean water program.....	6,000
R87-3	Agricultural conservation program.....	164,356
R87-4	Water bank program.....	8,166
R87-5	Emergency conservation program.....	10,000
<b>Farmers Home Administration:</b>		
R87-6	Rural water and waste disposal grants.....	79,500
R87-7	Rural community fire protection grants....	2,300
R87-8	Rural housing for domestic farm labor.....	7,400
R87-9	Mutual and self-help housing.....	8,000
R87-10	Very low income housing repair grants.....	9,400
R87-11	Compensation for construction defects.....	500
R87-12	Rural housing preservation grants.....	14,400
<b>Soil Conservation Service:</b>		
R87-13	Watershed and flood prevention operations.	96,000
R87-14	Great Plains conservation program.....	8,000
R87-15	Resource conservation and development.....	5,000
<b>Forest Service:</b>		
R87-16	Land acquisition.....	49,030
<b>Department of Commerce:</b>		
<b>Economic Development Administration:</b>		
R87-17	Economic development assistance programs..	169,718
<b>International Trade Administration:</b>		
R87-18	Operations and administration.....	11,400
<b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:</b>		
R87-19	Operations, research, and facilities.....	58,857
<b>National Telecommunications and Information Administration:</b>		
R87-20	Public telecommunications facilities, planning, and construction.....	19,300
<b>Department of Defense - Military:</b>		
<b>Procurement:</b>		
R87-21	Procurement of weapons and tracked combat vehicles, Army.....	15,000
R87-22	Other procurement, Navy.....	116,000
<b>Military Construction:</b>		
R87-23	Military construction, Air Force.....	2,750

<u>RESCISSION NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>BUDGET AUTHORITY</u>
	<b>Department of Defense - Civil:</b>	
	<b>Corps of Engineers - Civil:</b>	
R87-24	Construction, general.....	7,715
	<b>Department of Education:</b>	
	<b>Office of Elementary and Secondary Education:</b>	
R87-25	Compensatory education for the disadvantaged.....	7,500
R87-26	Impact aid.....	17,500
R87-27	Special programs.....	54,980
	<b>Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Languages Affairs:</b>	
R87-28	Bilingual education.....	45,886
	<b>Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services:</b>	
R87-29	Education for the handicapped.....	288,659
R87-30	Rehabilitation services and handicapped research.....	127,455
	<b>Office of Vocational and Adult Education:</b>	
R87-31	Vocational and adult education.....	432,319
	<b>Office of Postsecondary Education:</b>	
R87-32	Student financial assistance.....	1,269,000
R87-33	Higher education.....	203,050
	<b>Office of Educational Research and Improvement:</b>	
R87-34	Libraries.....	34,500
	<b>Department of Energy:</b>	
	<b>Energy Programs:</b>	
R87-35	Energy supply, research and development activities.....	81,800
R87-36	Fossil energy research and development....	44,464
R87-37	Energy conservation.....	87,433
	<b>Department of Health and Human Services:</b>	
	<b>Food and Drug Administration:</b>	
R87-38	Buildings and facilities.....	500
	<b>Health Resources and Services Administration:</b>	
R87-39	Health resources and services.....	161,210
R87-40	Indian health facilities.....	57,100
	<b>National Institutes of Health:</b>	
R87-41	National Library of Medicine.....	5,405
	<b>Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health:</b>	
R87-42	Public health service management.....	5,000
	<b>Departmental Management:</b>	
R87-43	Policy research.....	2,200