DECISION

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

00165

FILE: B-184298 DATE: November 14, 1975

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MATTER OF: Cintas Corporation

DIGEST:

Request for reconsideration of that part of decision holding protest filed after bid opening against alleged solicitation impropriety which was apparent prior to bid opening is untimely and not for consideration under section 20.2(b)(1) of GAO's Bid Protest Procedures is rejected, since the alleged over-statement of estimated quantities in a single solicitation does not raise "issues significant to procurement practices or procedures."

Cintas Corporation has requested reconsideration of that part of our decision, B-184298, September 25, 1975, in which we held that Cintas' post-bid opening protest was untimely filed and could not be considered on its merits since it concerned an alleged solicitation impropriety which was apparent prior to bid opening.

Cintas' request for reconsideration is made under section 20.2 (c) of our Bid Protest Procedures which permits consideration of an untimely protest if "issues significant to procurement practices or procedures" are raised.

The IFB at question was issued by the District of Columbia for contractor operated laundry, dry cleaning and pressing services. The IFB notified prospective bidders that quantities set forth in the solicitation were merely estimated requirements based on the best estimates then available. Cintas, the incumbent contractor for similar District of Columbia services and second lowest bidder on the IFB, contends that based on its prior experience the quantities contained in the IFB were misleading.

In 52 Comp. Gen. 20, 23 (1972) we stated that:

"'Issues significant to procurement practices or procedures' refers * * * to the presence of a principle of widespread interest."

See also FRAASS Surgical Mfg. Co., Inc., B-183416, June 2, 1975, 75-1 CPD 330.

The request for reconsideration does not present any new factual information or indicate through argument or cited precedent any mistake of law but rather indicates general disagreement with the conclusion of our prior decision. We do not view the alleged over-statement of estimated quantities in a single solicitation as raising a significant procurement issue of widespread interest so as to warrant consideration of the protest on the merits.

We, therefore, find no basis to reverse that part of our prior decision of September 25, 1975, and it is accordingly affirmed.

Milton J. Socolar

Acting Comptroller General
of the United States