

01514

R. Berger
Proct

DECISION



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

FILE: B-188276

DATE: February 8, 1977

MATTER OF: Kasper Brothers

DIGEST:

Agency determination to provide services in-house rather than to contract for such services is matter of Executive policy for consideration under OMB Circular A-76, and is not within decision function of General Accounting Office.

Kasper Brothers (Kasper) protests the decision of the Air Force to cancel invitation for bids (IFB) F30635-77-B-9014 for refuse collection at Griffiss Air Force Base, New York. Kasper states that the cancellation was "due to the Government's in service cost estimate for refuse collection which is lower in cost than the lowest bid received," and suggests several reasons as to why the Air Force estimate might be faulty.

In essence, the protest is directed against the basis for Air Force's decision to perform the services in-house. Executive Branch policy with respect to the subject of contracting for services or performing such services with Government employees is provided in Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76. Although that Circular expresses a general preference for contracting with commercial enterprises, we have always regarded the provisions of the Circular as matters of Executive policy which are not within the decision functions of the General Accounting Office. M. B. I. Security Services, Inc., B-187681, November 3, 1976, 76-2 CPD 389 and Maldick Services, Inc., B-184916, October 10, 1975, 75-2 CPD 231. Thus, the question of whether the Air Force properly decided to perform the services in-house is not a matter for decision by this Office.

Accordingly, the protest will not be considered.

Paul G. Dembling
Paul G. Dembling
General Counsel