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United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20543

Office of
General Counsel

In Reply
Refer to: B-177872(HID)

OCT 25 1979

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Mr. Howard R. Hartzell
USAED Saudi Arabia
Red Sea Area - Jidda
APO New York 09697

Dear Mr. Hartzell:

We refer to your letter dated September 19, 1979, with enclosures, requesting our assistance in locating your home leave records and in submitting a claim for such leave.

Pursuant to statute, disbursing officers, heads of executive departments, certifying officers and claimants whose claims have been disallowed are entitled to a formal decision by the Comptroller General of the United States, 31 U.S.C. §§ 74 and 82(d). As you do not solicit an opinion in one of these capacities, this Office will not provide you with a binding decision in this matter at this time. However, the following information may be helpful.

It would appear that the advice you have received from Ms. Jessica Sanford; MEWPL, by memo dated December 28, 1978, was appropriate. Your home leave records should be obtained from the agencies you were employed by during the periods the home leave was allegedly accrued. In any event, this Office does not maintain your home leave records. You may submit a claim for home leave accrued to our Claims Division, U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C. 20543.

Home leave for employees stationed outside the United States is authorized by 5 U.S.C. § 6305(a), with implementing regulations found at 5 C.F.R. § 630.601 et seq. (copy enclosed). Only those employees who qualify for maximum annual leave accumulation of 45 days under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 6304(b) are eligible for home leave. An employee is eligible for home leave entitlements only when he has completed 24 months of continuous services abroad.



B-177872

We hope this information is of some assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert I. Dunn

Herbert I. Dunn
Attorney-Adviser

Enclosure