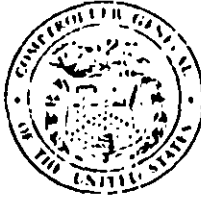


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DECISION



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

FILE: B-190513

DATE: November 11, 1977

MATTER OF: Inlingua School of Languages

DIGEST:

Allegation that solicitation was vague is untimely raised and will not be considered. Apparent improprieties must be raised before the date set for receipt of initial proposals.

Inlingua School of Languages (Inlingua) protests the award of a contract to any other offeror under solicitation CG-RFP-05-110-77 issued by the Fifth Coast Guard District, Portsmouth, Virginia for foreign language training.

Inlingua's basis for protest is that the solicitation is vague as to whether the four language trainees under item No. 2c of the Schedule will receive individual or group instruction. Inlingua states that it offered on the basis of individual instruction for each of the trainees but understands that the contract may have been awarded to another who calculated its lower price on the basis of group instruction.

Our Bid Protest Procedures, specifically 4 C.F.R. § 20.2 (b)(1) (1977 ed.) provide that protests against alleged improprieties in a request for proposals which are apparent prior to the closing date for receipt of initial proposals shall be filed before the closing date for receipt of initial proposals in order to be considered. The alleged impropriety in the solicitation was apparent before the date set for receipt of initial proposals, September 17, 1977. The protest was not filed until October 21, 1977 and is, therefore, untimely.

Accordingly, the protest is dismissed.

Paul G. Dembling
Paul G. Dembling
General Counsel