



United States  
General Accounting Office  
Washington, D.C. 20548

---

Office of the General Counsel

B-222189

December 5, 1986

Alan F. Wohlstetter, Esq.  
Denning & Wohlstetter  
Attorneys for Household Goods  
Forwarders Association  
of America  
1700 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Wohlstetter:

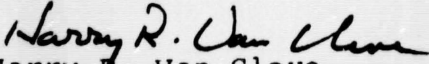
Your letter of October 24, 1986, on behalf of the Household Goods Forwarders Association of America, asks for review of an informal opinion contained in a letter of August 14, 1986, to Colonel Joseph R. Marotta, Director of Personal Property, Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, from Acting Assistant General Counsel, David F. Engstrom, of our Office.

Mr. Engstrom's letter indicated that a proposal to solicit rates for the transportation of domestic household goods shipments, which would include a valuation charge for a minimum valuation of \$1.25 per pound times a shipment's net weight, appeared to be inconsistent with the government's policy of self-insurance. The opinion distinguished between such an additional valuation charge and a proposal to solicit transportation rates which include an increase of released value (from the current 60 cents per pound per article to \$1.25 per pound of net weight). The latter proposal was not considered to be inconsistent with the Government's self-insurance policy.

In view of concerns subsequently expressed by you, another carrier organization and Military Traffic Management Command representatives, we have considered this matter further. As a result, in a conference held on October 23, 1986, in the General Accounting Office, our Deputy General Counsel, James F. Hinchman, advised Colonel Marotta that we would not object to the proposed solicitation which would include a separate valuation charge.

We hope that this satisfies the purpose of your request. We are furnishing a copy of this letter to Colonel Marotta.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harry R. Van Cleve  
General Counsel