

DECISION



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30548
**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

FILE: B-158706

DATE: FEB 13 1975

**MATTER OF: Earl R. English - reconsideration of claim for
laundry and drycleaning expenses**

**DIGEST: Employee who, incident to a permanent change of station,
has been reimbursed maximum amount for temporary quarters
allowance under formulas provided under paragraph 8.4c of
OMB Circular No. A-56 is not entitled to an additional
amount for expenses of laundry and drycleaning.**

This decision is in response to a request for reconsideration of a Certificate of Settlement on claim number Z-2308546, dated September 3, 1974, issued by our Transportation and Claims Division to Mr. Earl R. English, 2324 11 Mile Road, Warren, Michigan. Mr. English contends that the settlement of his claim for subsistence while occupying temporary quarters incident to a permanent change of station was incorrect in not including reimbursement for laundry and cleaning of clothing.

Mr. English's claim was settled under the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-56, revised August 17, 1971. Paragraph 8.4 of the Circular, which was in effect at the time of Mr. English's occupation of temporary quarters, provides that allowable expenses include meals, lodging, fees and tips incident to meals and lodging, and laundry, cleaning, and pressing of clothing. Subparagraph 8.4c provides that the amount which may be reimbursed for temporary quarters subsistence expenses will be the lesser of the actual amount incurred or the amount computed by formulas provided thereat.

We do not question the fact that laundry and drycleaning are allowable expenses under the provisions of the above-cited Circular. However, the applicable formula takes into account all allowable expenses in computing his entitlement. Our Transportation and Claims Division found that under the formula, the maximum amount reimbursable was \$699.94 and on an actual expense basis, the amount would be \$983.63. Therefore, there was no alternative but to allow only the lesser of the two amounts, pursuant to subparagraph 8.4c, supra.

Accordingly, since the maximum amount allowable has been paid, we confirm the settlement in the amount of \$699.94.

R.F.KELLER

Acting
**Comptroller General
of the United States**