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United States General Accounting Office Washington, DC 20548

Office of General Counsel

In Reply Refer to:

B-115398

December 7, 1979

To the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives

The purpose of this letter is to report on the status of budget authority that was proposed, but rejected, for rescission. In the President's first special message for fiscal year 1980, dated October 1, 1979, the President proposed the rescission of \$113,673 in annual budget authority that had been made available to the International Communication Agency for special international exhibitions (rescission proposal R80-1).

Section 1012(b) of the Impoundment Control Act requires that funds proposed for rescission be made available for obligation unless the Congress completes action on a rescission bill within the 45-day period of continuous congressional session following the day such a proposal is received by the Congress. For rescission proposal R80-1, the 45-day period ended on November 15, 1979, without the Congress having passed such a bill.

We have confirmed that on November 15, 1979, the subject budget authority was apportioned by the Office of Management and Budget to the International Communication Agency and that the funds were allotted to the program.

Milton J. Socolar General Counsel

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