



092819

Other

UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
REGIONAL OFFICE
ROOM 7054, FEDERAL BUILDING
300 NORTH LOS ANGELES STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

NOV 16 1970



Rear Admiral James W. Williams
Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District
19 Pine Avenue, Heartwell Building
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Admiral Williams:

We recently completed a survey of the Coast Guard Family housing program in your district. As my staff advised you, the results are tentative and our work, together with work performed at the Third Coast Guard District and Headquarters, Coast Guard, will be evaluated for possible further reporting or future studies.

As is our practice, our observations on the information which we obtained were discussed with members of your staff. Also, we were pleased to have had the opportunity to discuss our observations with you at the completion of the assignment. We have summarized our observations below for your information.

--It appears that the Coast Guard's 1970 biennial family housing survey will provide reliable information for identifying inadequately housed personnel and provide a reasonable basis for determining family housing requirements. Additional work is being conducted at Washington to evaluate the machine processing program which will be used for tabulating the data from the questionnaires submitted by married personnel. When the overall Coast Guard family housing deficit is obtained, our staff in Washington may look into the procedures used in adjusting the tabulated data, such as projected availability of community support.

--We found it difficult to measure the effectiveness of the Housing Administration, Information, and Liaison program because of the limited amount of documentation

BEST DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

714670
092819

Rear Admiral
James W. Williams

- 2 -

NOV 10 1970

to support the effort undertaken by the housing staff in (1) obtaining accurate information on the level of community support which can be attained for determination of the district's housing deficit, and (2) initiating positive steps to increase the number of families adequately housed in the community before deciding to lease or construct family housing. It appears that the number of families adequately housed in the community could be increased if more effort is exerted in obtaining community housing for small families within what the Department of Defense has determined as the maximum amount military personnel are expected to pay for housing. This amount, maximum allowable housing cost, is used by the Coast Guard to determine the adequacy of community housing. In this respect, we noted that in September, 1970, the district had 153 leases for family housing units, 7 of which were occupied by members with a wife only and 23 were occupied by members with a wife and one child. Of the 30 families 18 were occupying units with more bedrooms than authorized.

--Your staff agreed to consider as alternatives to procuring four family housing units at Port Luenene, the possibilities of (1) acquiring five family housing units located on the Onard Air Force Base which was recently closed, and (2) establishing eligibility for other Capehart housing formerly occupied by Onard Air Force Base personnel.

--We noted that the construction of the Channel Islands Harbor station was included in the FY 1972 forecast stage budget for about \$1.2 million. Although the project has been deferred for several years, we found little indication that the initial justification for the project had been updated. We were advised during our discussion with your staff that some current information had been obtained to update the justification for the project but the information had not been formalized in writing.

BEST DOCUMENT AVAILABLE