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Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

B-277869

September 26, 1997

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

In order to keep the Congress apprised of the amount and frequency of rescissions proposed and enacted we have updated our previous compilation of historical information and statistics regarding rescissions proposed by the executive branch and rescissions enacted by the Congress through the close of fiscal year 1996. These statistics were prepared in accordance with the same scope and methodology used in compiling our previous tables.

I trust you will find this information useful.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jane F. Hirschman".

Acting Comptroller General
of the United States

Enclosures

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OGC-97-59

ENCLOSURE I

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AND ENACTED RECISSIONS
FISCAL YEARS 1974 - 1996

(All legislative action through October 1, 1998)

Fiscal year	Rescissions proposed by president	Dollar amount proposed by president for rescission	Proposals accepted by Congress	Dollar amount of proposals enacted by Congress	Rescissions initiated by Congress	Dollar amount of rescissions initiated by Congress	Total rescissions enacted	Total dollar amount of budget authority rescinded
1984	9	638,400,000	3	55,375,000	7	2,188,689,000	10	2,244,064,000
1985	21	1,589,000,000	0	0	11	310,605,000	11	310,605,000
1982	32	7,807,400,000	5	4,365,486,000	5	48,432,000	10	4,413,918,000
1981	133	15,361,900,000	101 ¹	10,880,935,550	43	3,738,480,600	144	14,617,428,150
1980	59	1,618,100,000	34	777,696,446	33	3,238,208,100	67	4,015,902,546
1979	11	908,700,000	9	723,609,000	1	47,500,000	10	771,109,000
1978	12	1,290,100,000	5	518,655,000	4	67,164,000	9	585,819,000
1977	20	1,926,930,000	9	813,690,000	3	172,722,943	12	986,412,943
1976	50	3,582,000,000	7	148,331,000	0	0	7	148,331,000
1975	87	2,722,000,000	38	386,295,370	1	4,899,704	39	391,295,074
1974	2	495,635,000	0	0	3	1,400,412,000	3	1,400,412,000
Subtotal 1974-1984	436	\$38,018,165,000	211	\$16,670,075,366	111	\$11,216,221,347	322	\$29,885,294,713 ²

1 Thirty-three rescissions proposed by President Carter and totalling over \$1.1 billion are not included in this table. These rescission proposals were converted to deferrals by President Reagan in his Fifth Special Message for Fiscal Year 1981 dated February 13, 1981.

2 The total estimate of budget authority rescinded is understated. This table does not include rescissions which eliminate an indefinite amount of budget authority.

ENCLOSURE I

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AND ENACTED RESCISSIONS
FISCAL YEARS 1974 - 1996
(continued)
(All legislative action through October 1, 1996)

Fiscal year	Resciptions proposed by president	Dollar amount proposed by president for rescission	Proposals accepted by Congress	Dollar amount of proposals enacted by Congress	Resciptions initiated by Congress	Dollar amount of rescissions initiated by Congress	Total rescissions enacted	Total dollar amount of budget authority rescinded
1996	24	\$1,425,900,000	6	\$63,400,000	104	\$4,974,852,131	112	\$5,938,252,131
1995	29	\$1,199,824,000	25	\$45,388,805	248	\$18,868,380,121	273	\$19,713,789,926
1994	66	\$3,172,180,000	45	\$1,293,476,546	81	\$2,374,416,284	126	\$3,667,894,830
1993	7	\$356,000,000	4	\$206,250,000	74	\$2,205,390,643	78	\$2,411,596,643
1992	128	7,879,473,690	26	2,067,546,000	131	22,526,953,054	157	24,594,498,054
1991	30	4,859,251,000	8	286,419,000	26	1,420,487,000	34	1,706,898,000
1990	11	554,259,000	0	0	71	2,304,866,000	71	2,304,866,000
1989	6	143,100,000	1	2,053,000	11	326,913,000	12	327,966,000
1988	0	0	0	0	61	3,888,663,000	61	3,888,663,000
1987	73	5,835,800,000	2	36,000,000	52	12,359,390,675	54	12,395,390,675
1986	83	10,128,900,000	4	143,210,000	7	5,409,410,000	11	5,552,820,000
1985	245	1,656,087,000	98	173,689,000	12	5,456,621,000	110	5,632,320,000
Subtotal ³ 1985-1996	701	\$37,408,773,690	221	\$6,017,444,351	878	\$82,117,988,908	1099	\$88,134,833,259 ⁴
Subtotal: 1974-1996	436	\$38,018,165,000	211	\$18,670,073,366	111	\$11,219,221,347	322	\$29,889,294,713 ⁴
Grand Total: 1974-1996	1,137	\$75,426,938,690	432	\$24,687,517,717	989	\$93,337,210,255	1,421	\$118,020,127,972 ⁴

3 The Military Construction Appropriations Act of 1991 approved certain rescissions proposed by the President in 1990 41 days after the funds were released for obligation under the Impoundment Control Act. Presidential rescission proposals R90-4, R90-5, and R90-10 totaling about \$41 million were not approved.

4 The total estimate of budget authority rescinded is understated. This table does not include rescissions which eliminate an indefinite amount of budget authority.

RESCISSIONS BY PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT

Fiscal Year	Rescissions proposed by President Clinton		Presidential proposals accepted by Congress		Rescissions initiated by Congress During Clinton Administration	
	Number	Dollar Amount	Number Accepted	Dollar Amount	Number	Dollar Amount
1996	24	\$1,425,900,000	8	\$963,400,000	104	\$4,974,852,131
1995	29	\$1,199,824,000	25	\$845,389,805	248	\$18,868,380,121
1994	65	\$3,172,180,000	45	\$1,293,478,546	81	\$2,374,416,284
1993	7	\$356,000,000	4	\$206,250,000	66	\$1,962,511,000
TOTAL	125	6,153,904,000	82	3,308,517,351	499	28,180,158,536

Fiscal Year	Rescissions proposed by President Bush		Presidential proposals accepted by Congress		Rescissions initiated by Congress During Bush Administration	
	Number	Dollar Amount	Number Accepted	Dollar Amount	Number	Dollar Amount
1993	0	\$0	0	\$0	8	\$242,825,643
1992	128	7,879,473,690	26	2,067,546,000	131	22,526,953,054
1991	30	4,859,251,000	8	286,419,000	26	1,420,467,000
1990	11	554,258,000	0	---	71	2,304,986,000
1989	0	0	0	---	11	325,913,000
TOTAL	169	\$13,292,982,690	34	\$2,353,965,000	247	\$ 26,821,144,697

RESCISSIONS BY PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT
(continued)

Fiscal Year	Rescissions proposed by President Reagan		Presidential proposals accepted by Congress			Rescissions Initiated by Congress During Reagan Administration		
	Number	Dollar Amount	Number Accepted	Dollar Amount	Percent Accepted	Number	Dollar Amount	
1989	6	\$143,100,000	1	\$2,053,000	17	0	\$0	
1988	0	0	0	0	0	61	3,888,663,000	
1987	73	5,835,800,000	2	36,000,000	3	52	12,359,390,675	
1986	83	10,126,900,000	4	143,210,000	5	7	5,409,410,000	
1985	245	1,856,087,000	98	173,699,000	40	12	5,458,621,000	
1984	9	636,400,000	3	55,375,000	33	7	2,189,689,000	
1983	21	1,569,000,000	0	0	0	11	310,605,000	
1982	32	7,907,400,000	5	4,365,486,000	16	5	48,432,000	
1981	133	15,361,900,000	101	10,880,935,550	76	43	3,736,490,600	
TOTAL	602	\$43,436,587,000	214	\$15,656,758,550	36	198	\$33,400,301,275	

RESCISSIONS BY PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT
(continued)

Fiscal Year	Rescissions proposed by President Carter		Presidential proposals accepted by Congress		Rescissions Initiated by Congress During the Carter Administration	
	Number	Dollar Amount	Number Accepted	Dollar Amount	Number	Dollar Amount
1981	33	\$1,142,364,000	0	\$0	0	\$0
1980	59	1,618,100,000	34	777,696,446	33	3,236,206,100
1979	11	908,700,000	9	723,609,000	1	47,500,000
1978	12	1,290,100,000	5	518,655,000	4	67,164,000
1977	7	791,552,000	2	96,090,000	3	172,722,943
TOTAL	89	\$4,608,452,000	50	\$2,116,050,466	41	\$3,525,593,043

Note: The 33 rescissions proposed in 1981 by President Carter were converted to deferrals by President Reagan in his Fifth Special Message of Fiscal Year 1981, dated February 13, 1981.

Fiscal Year	Rescissions proposed by President Ford		Presidential proposals accepted by Congress		Rescissions Initiated by Congress During Ford Administration	
	Number	Dollar Amount	Number Accepted	Dollar Amount	Number	Dollar Amount
1977	13	\$1,135,378,000	7	\$717,600,000	0	\$0
1976	50	3,582,000,000	7	148,331,000	0	0
1975	87	2,722,000,000	38	386,295,370	1	4,999,704
1974	2	495,635,000	0	0	3	1,400,412,000
TOTAL	152	\$7,935,013,000	52	\$1,252,226,370	4	\$1,405,411,704