

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DATE: 20 May 1952

FROM :

SUBJECT: Reimbursement for Pre-employment Physical Examinations made at Prospective Employee's Own Expense

1. A check was made as to the basis for the item contained in "The Federal Spotlight" of about 1 May 1952, attached hereto.

2. This apparently refers to the decision of the Comptroller General of March 11, 1952 wherein reimbursement was denied for pre-employment physical examination at employee's own expense. The claimant in Vancouver, Washington, sought civilian employment with the Navy at Honolulu, T. H. Under Navy civilian personnel regulations, the pre-employment physical examination could be made free of charge by a Federal Medical Officer or by a private physician at the prospective employee's own expense. The civilian took the latter course, was given travel orders and, on arrival at Pearl Harbor, was accorded another examination for which no charge was made. He then sought reimbursement for the first examination.

3. It was held that since he procured the services of a private physician for the first examination, the cost thereof properly was a personal one and not payable from public funds. 22 Comp. Gen. 243.

4. The item in the newspaper obviously over-generalized. The purpose of the Navy civilian regulation in question is undoubtedly to give an applicant the option of obtaining a pre-employment examination at his own expense in the event he would rather adopt that course than incur greater expense in traveling to a place where Federal facilities are available for a free examination.

5. The regulations of this Agency do not require a pre-employment examination but rather a pre-employment evaluation through analysis of a medical ~~and~~ ^{history} form. A complete physical will be given each individual prior to assignment to duty in the Agency. Overt employees appointed in the field will be given a complete physical examination by a local examiner as prescribed by the medical staff. Where security considerations are a factor, special procedures will be developed by the medical staff and the Assistant Director concerned. It does not appear, therefore, that the Comptroller General's decision referred to affects this Agency.

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Attachment:

"The Federal Spotlight" of approximately 1 May 1952

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