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NOV 29 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM : Chief, Technical Accounting Staff
SUBJECT : Comptroller General's Decision B-119210,
16 August 1954 - Payment of Registry Fees on
Mailing Correspondence

1. The subject decision provides that registry fees on official domestic letters and parcels mailed via surface mail in Washington, D. C. may not be paid and charged to appropriations of the various departments and agencies in the absence of specific authority in the appropriation acts or other law.

2. In this Agency it is the practice because of security requirements to prepay postage and registry fees on certain mailings, utilizing for this purpose postage purchased from overt allotments.

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3. In the light of the subject decision and the Agency practice referred to in the preceding paragraph, a question was raised with the Office of the General Counsel concerning the authority for utilizing overt funds for such registry fees. Mr. [redacted] of the Office of General Counsel advised that the subject practice is satisfactory and if a question is raised as to the specific statutory authorization therefor, he will rely on the first clause of Section 10(b) of Public Law 110 which states, "The sums made available to the Agency may be expended without regard to the provisions of law and regulations relating to the expenditure of Government funds"

4. This memorandum is written to establish as a matter of record the foregoing information pertaining to this point so that it will be available if the question is ever raised by the General Accounting Office auditors or others.

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TAS/FWG:ak (29 Nov 54)
Distribution:
Orig. & 1 TAS Subj.
1 Deputy Comptroller
1 Fiscal Division

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1 TAS Chrono