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B-36459 April 6, 1944

Number: B-36459

Date: 1944-04-06

B-36459 April 6, 1944

The Honorable The Secretary of the Navy

My Dear Mr. Knox:

There has been received your letter of March 1, 1944, wherein approval was requested for the use of facsimile signatures on certain forms and records used by Navy Department disbursing officers.

It is proposed that the Chief of Field Branch, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Cleveland, Ohio, will authorize the use of appropriate facsimile signature plates in specific cases and only where justified by the volume of documents, and that a signature reproduced by an authorized signature plate will impose the same liability upon an officer as his autographic signature.

This office is aware of and appreciates the difficulties encountered in the signing of the numerous forms and records and concurs in the opinion that the use of facsimile signatures would reduce the work involved; however, before such approval may be given for the use of facsimile signatures on certain forms and records, it will be necessary that the Navy Department specify by letter accompanied by sample copies of such forms and descriptions of records for which it is desired that facsimile signatures be authorized.

With respect to Allotment Authorization, Nav. S. and A. Forms 5 and 6, Applications for Family Allowances, and Navy Pay Record, Nav. S. and A. Form 500, specifically mentioned in your letter referred to above, you are advised that the use of facsimile signatures of approving officers is authorized.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Lindsay C. Warren Comptroller General of the United States