

George, room
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS DIVISIONS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20210

GCSWB

Ship alteration and repair

April 15, 1970
SCA 401
CWH 205
6PC 206.35

This is in further reference to your letter of November 30, 1967, to which we replied on March 6, 1968, concerning the application of several labor standards statutes to contracts for ship repair and alteration. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a significant modification of the Department of Labor's position in this matter.

Recent advice received from the Solicitor of Labor indicates that building, alteration, repair and maintenance of ships under Government contract is work performed upon "public works" within the meaning of section 7(1) of the Service Contract Act (copy enclosed). Therefore, the Service Contract Act will not apply to contracts for the alteration and repair of merchant ships let by the Maritime Administration. However, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act will apply to such contracts.

We wish to point out that the foregoing does not alter the position stated in our previous letter with respect to the application of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act to the alteration or repair of naval vessels.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Moran
Administrator