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Testimony to Congressional Sub-Committee on Small Business

3rd Army

Contracts were let in large parcels which excluded small contractors. Contracts, such as concrete, could have been divided into smaller parcels (i.e. a per building contract). This would have allowed smaller contractors to take part in the construction.

Shaw Small Business

All small business at Shaw is reserved for SBA 8A contractors. Five (5) have been selected to construct all of the small business work for a contract period of five years.

Standard small business can only work as sub-contractors to these five.

Our experience, and others, has been that the SBA 8A contractors ignore the payment regulation of the federal government. Contracting officers do not seem to be motivated to insure that these regulations are followed. Most local small business cannot survive with the payment practices that are common place to these contractors.

Veteran Contracting

Veteran Contractors should be offered the same bid opportunities as SBA 8A's on military bases. Most SBA 8A contractors have never served in our military and yet they are given preference over veterans. Especially the SBA 8A contractors who are foreign country qualifiers. It is very disturbing that our veterans must step aside for foreign/American contractors who have never served our country.

Two years ago, I personally applied for Veteran Contractor status and have yet to get it. Papers have been lost, missed filed, entered into computer wrong, etc. It has been a very frustrating endeavor.

H. 'Bill' Lynam, III President