

## **National Defense: Better Navy Management of Shipbuilding Contracts Could Save Millions of Dollars: Psad-80-18 (Paperback)**



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**U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)**

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Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.The problem of cost and schedule overruns in Navy ship construction due to changes in the shipbuilding program has persisted for 75 years. GAO reviewed changes made to three major shipbuilding programs to evaluate the Navy's effectiveness in managing changes. Two types of changes were identified and discussed. Formal changes modified contracts in writing and were used only to correct deficiencies or errors in design, meet operational requirements, provide for safety of personnel and equipment, or reduce costs. Although instances of questionable formal changes were noted, generally the Navy managed them effectively. Constructive changes resulted from Navy action or inaction that caused the shipbuilder to do additional or different work than was required by the contract. If the Navy assumed responsibility for the change, a formal change was made in the contract to reflect the additional expense incurred by the contractor. If the Navy disagreed, the changes could form the basis for a contractor's claim. Since assuring GAO in 1971 that they would act to prevent constructive changes, the Navy made limited progress in controlling such changes by allowing 2 years for ship design concepts to stabilize before issuing definitive plans to follow-yards and through the use of contract clauses which put the burden of identifying constructive changes on the contractor. Two other factors were viewed as sources of increased costs under Navy shipbuilding contracts. Escalation provisions in Navy fixed-price contracts sheltered shipbuilders from inflation by paying cost increases beyond the control of the shipbuilder or the Navy and, under a new policy, paid escalation on costs which may not have been significantly affected by inflation. Another new policy allowed escalation payments to continue after the...

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