

Mr. MULLINS. No, sir. We paid \$51,000 for that. At the same time that we let these study contracts, the question came up: Should this vehicle have installed as the drive system a mechanical drive line, an electric drive line, or a hydraulic drive line?

Now, that is a very difficult problem to determine.

Mr. HARDY. What had you already recommended?

Mr. MULLINS. I had not recommended either yet, and that was the particular thing that we wanted these people to investigate, was all of those drive lines. And, of course, if they could come up with a scheme that was better than ours we would set ours aside and adopt theirs.

Mr. HARDY. It would be a whole lot easier for them to use what you had, though, wouldn't it?

Mr. MULLINS. Sir, I am quite sure that they would not have dared come back on that basis, because they were told:

If you come back and recommend anything other than this, we will want to adopt it, but it has to be proven better than what we have worked out here.

Mr. HARDY. Well, you sure did tell them, if you have to prove it better than what we have got, you better take what we have got.

Mr. MULLINS. We told them that we were not interested in just coming back and handing us a report, Sir.

Mr. HARDY. Well, I don't know. I would like to know what you got for this money. You say fifty-some-thousand dollars—what is this \$116,000 shown?

Mr. MULLINS. That was for the design of an electrical drive line. Now, when this firm came back with—

Mr. HARDY. That is in addition to the \$51,000?

Mr. MULLINS. That is right.

Mr. HARDY. So in total, you paid Food Machinery \$167,000 for this?

Mr. MULLINS. No, no.

Mr. HARDY. How much?

Mr. MULLINS. The contract with Food Machinery was for the design of an electric drive line and an overall study. They were given 4 months to complete the overall study, and when they came in with the overall study they recommended that the mechanical drive line be used. As a result, we closed the contract for the electric drive line and paid them off.

Mr. HARDY. You mean because they didn't recommend what you wanted?

Mr. MULLINS. No; they were supposed to recommend what they thought was best. They already had a contract to make the complete drawings and design for an electric drive line for us, but they recommended in their overall study that the mechanical drive line was best; that we were not quite to the state of the art where we could use an electric drive line.

As a result, we closed out the electric drive line.

Mr. HARDY. And used a mechanical line which they did recommend?

Mr. MULLINS. Used a mechanical drive line which they recommended.

Mr. HARDY. I was interested in trying to find out just exactly what we got for all this money.