

report which is this: You report in table 2, where you show the details of the bids, only those bidders who submitted identical bids and you omit the names of the other bidders. They felt that the first report you prepared for us on the sample of the 193 bids, for years prior to the President's Executive order, was a great deal more informative and useful in this respect whereas your new report may conceal more than it reveals and could be misleading in some respects.

For example, at page 177 you report bids for truck and bus tires. The report indicates that there were 14 bids and 4 of them were identical. Then you list the four companies who submitted identical bids and these are the Big Four in the rubber industry.

But the fact that you show there were 14 bids and only four identical would suggest to State and local purchasing agents that perhaps they could expect a lot of bids at a variety of low prices for such truck and bus tires.

Yet I wonder how many of those 14 bidders were only local dealers for the big four rubber companies and I would assume that the local dealers would likely submit higher bids than the manufacturers.

How many rubber companies, Judge, are there who are making first line truck and bus tires, do you know?

Mr. LOEVINGER. I don't know, Congressman, I am sorry.

Chairman PATMAN. You don't know.

Do you know any reason why the name of the low bidder shouldn't be published?

Mr. LOEVINGER. No.

As a matter of fact, I think the low bid is indicated here. I should give credit to Mr. Lewis Markus, the head of the economic section—

Chairman PATMAN. Suppose you identify him for the record.

Mr. LOEVINGER (continuing). Who is here with me, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Markus has been largely responsible for actually assembling this report and doing the economic work, and supervising the detailed manipulation of data involved here.

Chairman PATMAN. It is page 117 that I am referring to.

Mr. MARKUS. Congressman Patman, if I may go back to your first question?

Chairman PATMAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. MARKUS. On the omission of the nonidentical bidders.

Chairman PATMAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. MARKUS. The impression that we had at the time we undertook this program, was that we would want to lay heavy emphasis on the identical bidders throughout the report. The feeling we had was if we identified within the framework of the report the nonidentical bidders the inference may be drawn that they were in the same category as the identical bidders and for that reason, at least, we did not include all of the details as to every bid that was submitted in response to an invitation.

Chairman PATMAN. It is being brought to your attention so that you can consider it in the future reports. We realize this is a pioneering venture and we can't expect to have everything just exactly right at the beginning.

Mr. MARKUS. Certainly.

Chairman PATMAN. This never has been done before, we realize that.