

Mr. KELLER. It would be up to the contracting agency to seek a payment from the contractor for the use of Government equipment on commercial business.

Representative CURTIS. But is all this property actually assigned out, say, to the Defense Department and then, in turn, assigned to the contractor? GSA could own some of it.

Mr. KELLER. It could be in the hands of GSA or Defense or any of the contracting agencies. I think GSA and Defense would be the two major agencies.

Representative CURTIS. In that instance then the person who would have to move toward the recoupment would be the agency to whom this equipment was assigned, is that correct?

Mr. KELLER. That is correct, sir.

ROLE OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Representative CURTIS. Would the Justice Department ever get into this area to collect claims of this nature? I am not thinking of the civil rather than criminal aspect.

Mr. KELLER. I think they would if it comes to a case where the Government is contemplating court action or is in a position of defending a suit. Short of that, I do not see Justice in the picture.

Representative CURTIS. Many of the defense contracts have renegotiation clauses in them, and this would be another area where some of this could be followed through. It is very difficult for me to understand how the Defense Department could do a very good job of renegotiating if they have not gotten this information back on their reports. Would you comment on that?

Mr. KELLER. It would be certainly difficult for them. I guess if you do not have information maybe your problem is not too difficult. We think they should have the information.

Representative CURTIS. Yes.

NEGOTIATION WITHOUT RECORDS ON GOVERNMENT FURNISHED PROPERTY

I do not know how you could really negotiate a contract with much intelligence if you did not have records of what Government property is owned and might have been used in this.

DEFENSE CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SERVICE (DCAS)

One other basic comment: This committee has shown considerable interest in the development of the Defense Contract Administration Service. They are a key to this problem. The qualifications of the personnel responsible for following through is important. Secretary McNamara created a service so that there would be an esprit de corps, and improved training of this kind of personnel.

ROLE OF DCAS IN NEGOTIATIONS

Incidentally, in my interrogations on how far we were going, I was looking into what jurisdictions were given to the contracting service officers. I was disappointed to learn that they had nothing to do, ap-