

Mr. RUMSFELD. Is there any reason that was not submitted with your testimony?

Mr. MORRIS. It just came off the printing press last night, sir. We did not expect it this morning, as a matter of fact.

Mr. RUMSFELD. I would like to look at it while someone else is asking questions.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Mrs. Griffiths?

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Thank you very much. I would like to say to you, Mr. Secretary, not in criticism of you, but I do not agree with your statements. I think the Defense Department has spent 180 years trying to keep from finding out what things cost. Quoting from your statement, you point out that often, therefore—

We have no other source for the item than the prime contractor or the source he identifies in the manual which accompanies the equipment.

Mr. MORRIS. That is right.

#### PRICES PRIMES PAY FOR SUBCONTRACTED ITEMS

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. The challenge we face is the degree to which we can justify adding personnel to our procurement organizations.

For years I have had a bill in here that would require that the prime supply the price he paid for subcontracted items, and the other subcontractors supply that price. The Defense Department has opposed this.

Why, may I ask, do you oppose it? Why don't you get the prices on these items, ship them out to DIPEC and let DIPEC list them on the computers. I think it would be the simplest thing in the world. It might be a little difficult to start with. But in the end, you would know what the price was and where the items were purchasable.

Mr. MORRIS. I believe that we are endeavoring to do, so far as is practical, exactly what you say. It is not DIPEC, but the Battle Creek, Mich., computer operation.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. The last time I was out there (DLSC) they did not even have the price of any item on anything.

Mr. MORRIS. We endeavor to maintain prices on catalog items where we have it.

#### PRICES ON ALL ITEMS

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Why don't you get it all?

Mr. MORRIS. As indicated in our statement, we have the problem with new equipment coming into inventory each year, of adding some 4 million potential new items to our stock. We must, at provisioning time, select that 10 to 15 percent of the items which we and the contractor think are likely to wear out and require replacement.

When we get that kind of provisioning listing, we do obtain from the contractor an identification of source, and of estimated price. Our buyers are furnished this information insofar as possible, as a guide to them when a rebuy does occur.

There are many of these 4 million items that are not identified during provisioning, and the only source of knowledge we have at the time one of them happens to require replacement—as occurred in some of Mr. Pike's cases—is to go to the manufacturers' parts manual or tech-