

Mr. CURTIS. If I may be pardoned for uttering a suspicion, it seems to me what you really run into is the same fight we always do from the three services. If you leave them to themselves, of course, they want control over any branch they can. We have never even coordinated the Chaplains' Corps, or the procurement of materials for the chaplains in the Army, Navy, and Air Force. We are still worshipping God according to the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and so it is here.

I recognize these arguments, and some of them have validity. But with this situation we have, the vast quantities, and the need for these improved management techniques, that should be overriding. We cannot afford, in my judgment, this parochialism. And I think—I hope that just as you were able to gird your loins and develop the Service Contracting Corps, you would move toward this. Maybe you are and maybe this is just one of these problems that you just have to fight out with finesse.

1.8 MILLION ITEMS UNDER INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

Mr. MORRIS. I think the important fact is that since 1961 we have brought 1.8 million items under integrated management, including procurement of those items, whereas there were only 40,000 in 1961.

Mr. CURTIS. If I were training procurement officers, I would train them in one common school, and then let them go to the Navy, Army, or Air Force, whichever happened to be the service—but I would know they were following what is our best information of good procurement practices.

COMMON SCHOOLS FOR PROCUREMENT

Mr. MORRIS. This we are doing, sir. We have common schools for all military departments and DSA, in the procurement field.

Mr. CURTIS. All the more reason for following it out and developing a corps that would develop this esprit de corps and exchanging of knowledge.

Mr. MORRIS. We agree, sir.

AUDIT GROUP SEPARATE FROM PROCUREMENT AND SERVICE CONTRACT GROUPS

Mr. CURTIS. Now, there is a third group, as I understand—there may be more—but then you have your audit group. They are separate and distinct from your procurement people, your Service Contract people. Am I correct?

Mr. MORRIS. That is correct, sir.

Mr. CURTIS. How is that group developing? What is the stage of its development along a corps concept, or is it still separated into the three services?

Mr. MORRIS. I think we have made much progress here. There is a Central Defense Contract Audit Agency. The head of this agency, Mr. Petty, is with us, and he may wish to comment on your question.

DCAA A SINGLE AGENCY

Mr. PETTY. We are a single agency. We have no parts in Army, Navy, or Air Force.