

turer at this time. We need Government support by direction from the executive branch of Government to the General Services Administration to require computer manufacturers doing business with the Government to provide published information on standard peripheral adapters at this time.

Strong indicators exist which seem to substantiate the fact the executive branch condones, either knowingly or unknowingly, unethical practices of the Federal procurement elements to freeze independent peripheral manufacturers from submitting proposals to (1) commercial segments who have been given appropriated funding from the U.S. Government for computer system procurements and (2) directly from Federal procurement segments themselves.

Unless our words are heard the independent peripheral manufacturer will eventually decrease and become annihilated from the market which will decrease employment, stagnate technology, decrease competition, and increase cost to the taxpayer. Action must be taken to correct this problem as time is something the independent peripheral manufacturers just do not have.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you, Mr. Caveney. That is a very impressive statement.

Mr. Caveney, what experience have you had in Government procurement?

Mr. CAVENEY. Mr. Chairman, I was a former Marine Corps officer. I graduated from the Marine Corps Supply School, fourth out of a class of 33. And I spent my last 4 years with the Armed Forces special weapons project of AEC in the repair and manufacturing of nuclear weaponry.

I left the service and acquired a degree, majored in accounting, and contract law, and I have since been with my current company, where I am not only assistant to the vice president, but manager of all contracting and foreign licensing. So I am well versed in procurements of the Federal Government on both sides of the fence.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You acted in your capacity as a military officer as a procurement official—you bought for the Federal Government?

Mr. CAVENEY. I bought for the Government from commercial sources.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What did you buy? What was your area?

Mr. CAVENEY. Handtools—anything from toothpicks on up through minor computer periphery.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You did buy computer—

Mr. CAVENEY. Yes. But it was done by higher authority, I was a junior officer, and we would sit down in concert with the colonel and we would take parts of the contract. He would make the ultimate decision.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Who were the 50 independent peripheral companies you are talking about?

Mr. CAVENEY. Just to name a few—a list can be passed to the committee members, which Mr. Ward has several copies of—it will show the 50 major ones with some being as large as Packard Hewlett, a large corporation.