

Mr. DOMINICK. Mr. President, information which reached me yesterday is very disturbing. I am informed that the radio set AN/PRC-77 is, today, being manufactured by a company other than RCA, in a foreign country, by a company which is not American owned, and is being manufactured in accordance with the very drawings that Mr. Brooks has alleged to me do not exist. A representative of the foreign company has acknowledged publicly that the foreign company is, in fact, manufacturing this walkie-talkie radio set. In view of the foregoing, I believe that the public and the Congress is entitled to the real truth in this matter. I have, therefore, requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to come into this case and learn how these manufacturing drawings came into foreign hands while the Army officials themselves claim that a data package on this radio equipment does not exist.

Mr. President, in addition, I intend to insert for the Record a copy of the letter which I have directed to the Comptroller General of the United States concerning this matter. Among other things, I have requested that an audit be conducted of the earlier \$20 million RCA contract for radio sets the Army procured at \$2,156.91 each. Two million two hundred thousand dollars had already been paid RCA for development of this radio, after which RCA subsequently quoted a price of \$843.37 per unit for the identical equipment in open competitive bidding. The purpose of this audit, of course, is to identify and recapture any excess profits which had to be generated in such an enormous contract for such a little radio.

Mr. President, I am more fully convinced than ever that in view of the questionable transactions which are coming to light an in-depth investigation into our military procurement practices should be initiated by Congress without further delay.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a very interesting article by Mr. Willard Edwards which appeared in the Chicago Tribune on September 23, 1967, be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

"CAPITOL VIEWS

"(By Willard Edwards)

"WASHINGTON, September 22.—The panic button was pressed in the Pentagon this week when Sen. Peter H. Dominick [R., Colo.] arose on the Senate floor and asked a quiet question. Forces were thereby initiated that could mushroom into a scandal of government-shaking proportions.

"'Was it not time,' Dominick inquired, 'to determine whether outright dishonesty, and not just bureaucratic fumbling and inefficiency, was responsible for the accumulating evidence of monumental waste in military procurement practices? Specifically, was someone in the defense department getting rich thru the allotment of huge contracts to large corporations despite lower bids by competitors? With more than 18 billion dollars allotted this year for military purchases, the temptation was great.'

"It was a question that has been begging for utterance in recent months. Dominick, a member of the Senate armed services committee, backed it up by citing two recent cases he had uncovered which suggested corruption instead of the inefficiency often accepted as normal to war time spending. He asked the government operations committee to determine whether the facts warranted a full-scale investigation and public hearings.

"Scores of members have received complaints of cases similarly indicating fraud. Small business firms thruout the nation have reported numerous instances in which they were frozen out of defense contracts by bigger corporations with influential contacts in Washington. In all cases, the defense department paid more for supplies than was necessary.

"DOMINICK SECRETLY APPLAUDED FOR CANDOR

"Dominick brought into the open a situation which many had been loath to discuss and they secretly applauded his candor. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara was alerted to the danger. President Johnson was advised that a political volcano was rumbling and might erupt in an election year. An emergency meeting of defense department officials was called to debate the threat.

"McNamara has weathered many storms by putting up a barrage of angry denials and counter-charges. But he will proceed cautiously in this crisis, having