

Again, in this area of claims, Congress will have to take the lead if anything is to be done. Congress should require the executive branch to maintain contract experience records which reveal such things as original and final prices of contracts and amounts of unfounded and exorbitant claims submitted by contractors, and the amounts of excessive profit. I also recommend that Government procurement procedures be strengthened to insure prompt closeout of contracts following completion of work. I believe Congress should require an annual report from each agency, listing contracts still in force more than a reasonable period of, say 1 to 3 months, after the contract work has been completed, and the reason therefor.

Mr. WIDNALL. You are speaking about your frustrations about change-orders, the cost involved, and the delay involved. Don't go outside of this building without seeing what happened here, where it started out around \$65 million and is currently up around \$118 million because of change-orders.

Is part of this the awarding of an original contract to a low bidder, and then there is something on the outside—you bid low, and then we will give you all these change-orders, where you make your profit, and where you pyramid your profit?

This has happened in private business, with municipalities, in the building of schools.

Admiral RICKOVER. May I answer your questions, sir?

Mr. BARRETT. Admiral, before you answer it, may I just interpose here for a second.

You know we had a great shipyard known as the New York Shipbuilding Corp. in Camden, N.J. It built the aircraft carrier *Kitty Hawk*. They had so many changes of plans that the cost of the changes ultimately reached the cost of the original contract. The Navy then took the *Kitty Hawk* over to the Philadelphia Naval Base and they had to correct the changes which were made by the New York Shipbuilding Corp. to meet the specifications of the Navy.

Now, these are things that do happen, and in this building, too. When I first came across town from the airport and I would say "the Rayburn Building," the operator of the cab, would say, "Are you going to that monstrosity?"

But today cab operators and others who come here say, "Isn't this a most palatial building?" It is worth every dollar put into it.

Admiral RICKOVER. Your comment on the Rayburn Building reminds me of the story about Pope Pius II in the 15th century in connection with the construction of a church and a palace.

The Pope had received many insinuations against his architect, a Florentine named Bernardo—that he had cheated, that he had blundered in the construction of the church and the palace, that he had spent more than 50,000 ducats when his estimate had been 18,000. The law would have obliged the architect to make up the difference.

Pius, when he had inspected the work and examined everything, sent for the man.

When the architect arrived in some apprehension, since he knew that many charges had been brought against him, Pius said, "You did well, Bernardo, in lying to us about the expense involved in the work. If you had told the truth, you could never have induced us to spend so much money and neither this splendid palace nor this church, the