

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Let it fail and then fix it?

Mr. LYMAN. When it has failed, then fix it.

Mr. KUYKENDALL. All right. You charged the FAA management let a piece of equipment fail.

Mr. LYMAN. If you are in the room and you are working on another piece of equipment and you look across the room and a gear is going to fail and your project for that day is to work on X over here, but Y is failing, you are telling these people, do not work on Y, only work on X. That is correct.

Mr. KUYKENDALL. I hope that regardless of what anybody ever tells you that as long as I am flying an airplane around and you look across the room and see a piece of equipment failing that would endanger human life that no boss in the world would keep you from fixing it.

Mr. LYMAN. Now you are getting to the point that I did not get to because we are trying to summarize and that is exactly what is happening because you have professional and dedicated electronics technicians.

That is right. They are acutally being forced into a moonlighting situation.

Mr. KUYKENDALL. FAA would let a piece of equipment deliberately fail and endanger human life?

Mr. LYMAN. In order to satisfy statistics that show that this piece of electronic equipment fails only seldom. Yes, we have that information.

Mr. KUYKENDALL. And you have information that they deliberately let the equipment fail and endanger human life?

Mr. LYMAN. Encouraging the equipment to fail because these people are not working on it. When you have a technician in that room, this technician has a responsibility in his own mind when he looks across that room and he sees an indicator that that equipment is getting ready to fail, he moonlights but does not record that in his official record because disciplinary action is then effected by his immediate supervisors to the point where he does not report it.

So as you say, as a pilot we are getting a service from him which he wants to give to you but he is giving it to you not because he is told to but because of the fact he is there. He knows what the consequence is going to be and that is correct.

Mr. FRIEDEL. What do you mean by "the consequence?" If he reports something, he is going to be reprimanded?

Mr. LYMAN. If he works on a project that he was not scheduled—

Mr. FRIEDEL. He is going to be reprimanded?

Mr. LYMAN. That is correct. And we will give you this information. We will give you the specifics.

Mr. LYONS. Mr. Chairman, if you will, last year at the eastern regional meeting of all of our locals of the AFS groups or the systems maintenance employees, it was brought to the attention of the head of the eastern region that equipment is not being maintained properly. As a matter of fact, the presidents of these locals informed the head of the eastern region that we have been moonlighting on equipment; that they themselves have been checking on it although they are not supposed to perform preventative maintenance.

Preventative maintenance is to check material before it breaks down. Now they had quite a few outages but they were told they were not