

General JONES. We have not responded with respect to the progress that has been made. We have responded with respect to what we are doing about their observations.

Mr. ROBACK. Can you undertake, I know you are leaving here, but can the office or the Army undertake to make some response to the matters that are in the GAO report as to what is changed, what progress has been made since that time?

General HEISER. Sir, if I may answer that question, we of course have not gotten the formal report which was I believe distributed on Friday. I would assume that we will make, we will have a chance to comment on the formal report.

Mr. ROBACK. This is not a draft report. This is a blue book to the Congress now, and you don't have any more chance to comment to the GAO on this thing. So we are giving you an opportunity to comment to us on it.

General Jones, in what respect would you say that this thing doesn't give the right picture now?

General JONES. Well, let's talk about excesses.

Mr. ROBACK. All right.

General JONES. Alleged excesses. We admitted excesses, we, the Army. We admitted them in Vietnam. We are in a huge program at the present time to identify those excesses, and to retrograde those excesses from Vietnam.

The General Accounting Office pictures that I believe are in their report were generally taken at the Saigon depot, and especially at the so-called fish market which is—

Mr. HOLIFIELD. At about what time, what dates?

General JONES. Those were in the fall, sir. I can't give you the exact date, but they were there during the period, they were just winding up at about my arrival. They wound up about November.

Mr. ROBACK. Of what year?

General JONES. So it is something before 1967.

Mr. ROBACK. 1967?

General JONES. But the pictures you see there of the fish market are not true pictures today.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. In other words, there is no more fish market today?

General JONES. There is a fish market, sir.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. But not stacks of materiel there?

General JONES. There are stacks of materiel, but we know what that materiel is.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. You have not classified it, identified it?

General JONES. We have, sir. It is in good storage conditions. It is warehoused properly. That which we did not need in Vietnam has retrograded to Okinawa. We have from the fish market alone retrograded 30,000 tons of items that, (a) were either excess, or (b) that we could not identify and were sent to Okinawa for proper identification, proper repackaging, so that they could be used other places in the Army or even perhaps brought back into Vietnam in some cases. We are doing this in all the depots, but our emphasis has been on the Saigon depot, because that was especially where the General Accounting Office took their pictures and did a lot of their work. But we are doing this in other depots with respect to excesses.