

General RIEMONDY. This is correct, yes, sir. As we feed the computers there is no doubt about it, there are errors made from time to time, and I don't really know what par for the course is, very frankly.

Mr. DAHLIN. Does 22 percent indicate what par for the course is? Does that show that the computers are that defective or the systems, the procedures you are talking about, need to be refined?

General RIEMONDY. A question of both, procedures, discipline, and trying to reconcile how much of this is really in transit.

Mr. ROBACK. If your computer system is sufficiently sophisticated—

General RIEMONDY. It is.

Mr. ROBACK. There is no reason why the computer shouldn't check this all the time.

General RIEMONDY. It becomes a question, Mr. Roback, of checking what is in the base computer.

Mr. ROBACK. There is a breakdown in communications between the receiver and the sender somewhere.

General RIEMONDY. Sometimes, yes.

Mr. ROBACK. And the computer can be programed to check this kind of thing, and the sophisticated computer in your third generation ought to be able to do that. Maybe it will be the fourth generation, I don't know.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. You said something about the disparity being in goods in transit.

General RIEMONDY. Some of it could be in transit, yes.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. But still your requisition order would still be in the user's hands, wouldn't it?

General RIEMONDY. Yes.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. As I understood it, this was a reconciliation of records in the due bills as to out bills or bills in process from the base supplier.

General RIEMONDY. What we attempt to do, Mr. Chairman, at a point in time, we attempt to reconcile what the base says the depot owes me, to what the depot says I owe the base.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. And that has to incorporate, I would suppose, an estimate of the goods in transit.

General RIEMONDY. Yes, sir; and that which is in transit—the depot says, "I have already shipped it" and the base says, "I haven't received it."

Mr. HOLIFIELD. This is what I am wondering, if part of that 22 percent was called in error, to what extent does that factor enter into it, or does it enter into it?

General RIEMONDY. It enters into it; yes.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. But you don't know what percent.

General RIEMONDY. I don't know what percent. Then an attempt must be made to reconcile each individual requisition. What I am saying is the volume of the business is so great that this gets to be a monumental task.

For example, last year, fiscal year 1967, we processed over 17 million requisitions. This gets to be a pretty big task, trying to reconcile each individual requisition.

Now this is not to say it should not be done. But then I say I don't really know what par for the course is, as to what percentage of the