

outstanding requisitions that a base has should in fact have to be reconciled.

Now there are programs in being that cause a reconciliation to take place every 90 days and I suppose if one would attempt to establish an audit trail behind every one of those requisitions, this would get to be a rather expensive proposition. I am not disagreeing with the fact that in this particular run 22 percent of all outstanding requisitions from these bases were not reconcilable.

Mr. DAHLIN. We don't have to fight that percentage, General; but I suppose that it is one of the things you need to know, in order to get your next package of either programs—

General RIEMONDY. Yes.

Mr. DAHLIN. Or computers, to find out just what that percentage ought to be.

General RIEMONDY. Yes; agreed.

Mr. DAHLIN. We are not talking about the question of following up every individual item. It is a question of just what the capability of the equipment should be, and in making errors. Because if you can't determine that, then you can't buy any more equipment very sensibly, can you?

General RIEMONDY. No.

Mr. ROBACK. I may add it also indicates that no matter how much visibility and how much control you have at the wholesale level, when you get down to the base level you have a lot of problems on that side. The General Accounting Office recommended, which the Air Force apparently has not accepted, that base using activities develop a uniform system of records, so that they won't be putting a requisition on you when they have the item in the base supplies, for example.

General RIEMONDY. Granted, agreed.

Mr. ROBACK. You don't agree with the recommendation though.

General RIEMONDY. But the recommendation wasn't just that.

Mr. ROBACK. Let me read the recommendation.

General RIEMONDY. All right.

Mr. ROBACK. This is in the report to the Congress, B-162152, dated October 31, 1967:

We therefore recommend that the Secretary of the Air Force take action to establish at the base using activity level a uniform system of records to adequately control outstanding requests.

Such a system would enhance the effectiveness of the action taken by the Air Force, to shorten the interval for validating back orders and would provide continuity of recordkeeping when personnel are rotated at the user level.

Furthermore, the establishment of a uniform system at the user level would be consistent with the already established uniform systems at the base supply and depot level for controlling and reporting supply transactions.

So you think there is too much work involved in that?

General RIEMONDY. Well, let me cite, then, for the record our answer.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. Go ahead.

General RIEMONDY (reading):

In regard to the recommendations we are convinced that the supply system presently in existence can and does provide the information necessary for effective management of supply requirements at user level.

Mr. ROBACK. All you are saying there is, "We think it is OK the way it is."