

first production article for use would be in the neighborhood of 12 to 15 months.

Mr. DAHLIN. Fifteen months is a reasonable estimate.

What is your estimate between the dates you come up with the data package and before you make an award or could make an award, even if you had the money, which you do not appear to have at this time?

Is it going to take longer in your view to award a contract, if you had a competition on these 70-71 models, certify them and this sort of thing? Do you regard this as a standard kind of contract procedure, if you get a new model?

Captain McMorries. I think with a data package, and assuming a normal procurement, with the necessary leadtime for solicitation, that it would not take any longer to result in an award with 30 competitors than it would with five. I do not know whether this addresses your question.

And as to the elapsed time from initiation of the procurement until contract award, I would defer to Mr. Tassin on that, because his operation will be conducting it.

Mr. TASSIN. From the initiation of the request to the contract award, Captain?

Captain McMorries. Yes.

Mr. TASSIN. There should not be any difference in time, but my estimate would be that it requires more time to conduct a competition and give everybody an opportunity to quote on something than it does on a sole source, and the law I think recognizes this.

It is my estimate that it would take somewhere between 4 to 6 months to accomplish this competition, and give everybody an equal opportunity.

NAVY POSITION IN EVENT OF DEBARMENT OF ALSCO

Mr. DAHLIN. Mr. Stein, what is the position of the Department in case you get a debarment in this field?

Mr. STEIN. The position would be substantially the same as it is now.

Normally we do not contract with companies that are either suspended or debarred. However, in each case this is an administrative action, which is taken in the interests of the Government, and which can be modified in the interests of the Government.

Mr. ROBACK. Is there a waiver that has been signed?

Mr. STEIN. Yes.

Mr. ROBACK. On the pending procurement?

Mr. STEIN. Yes.

Mr. ROBACK. That is a waiver to permit dealing with a suspended firm?

Mr. STEIN. Yes.

Mr. ROBACK. And under what circumstances would debarment occur? If there was a conviction?

Mr. STEIN. Debarment would likely occur if there was a conviction.

Mr. ROBACK. And if there is a conviction, are you permitted to deal with a firm that is legally debarred?

Mr. STEIN. I am sorry, I did not get your question.

Mr. ROBACK. Are you permitted to deal with a firm that is legally debarred?