

is operated. They have an extensive program in this particular area and I think can answer it for the record, sir.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Colonel, I am new in this area, but it seems to me that nobody is running this railroad. We get trains going in all directions on various timetables, if you will. It seems to me nobody is in charge. Don't you think this program would be helped tremendously and many problems could be done away with if someone were running the railroad?

Now, with your answer to this question just now, I am afraid that when we get the GSA representatives up here, they are going to look at us with blank stares, because I do not think that they have the answer to it either. Therefore, is there anybody who is actually in charge of this program?

Colonel DAVID. The reason I answered the question the way I did—

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Because you really do not know.

Colonel DAVID (continuing). Is because I do not know exactly how the furniture program ties into the overall exchange/sale authority. As far as the exchange/sale is concerned and as far as our own instructions and guidance and what GSA has put out, I feel we understand that, but this one particular area of furniture is handled differently. GSA has furniture contracts all over the United States, in prisons and other places, and it is handled differently than what I am familiar with.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Let us go back to my real question or the important question. Do you not feel as though this program could be run in a much more orderly manner with much more efficiency if there was someone in authority who would then have the responsibility of the program?

Colonel DAVID. Well, I have to agree that there is room for improvement.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Thank you.

Mr. MONAGAN. Well, we have made progress with that admission.

Mr. Copenhaver has a question.

Mr. COPENHAVER. Colonel David, with regard to the same announced subinstruction that Mr. Romney had been talking about, there is a provision in it which says this: "Purchasing activities, in disposing of property based on cash bids that it receives, will request from the nearest surplus sales office the market value of the property. When the market value of the property is \$50 higher than the cash offer, the property will be transferred to the servicing PDO for sale."

Now, it would seem to me that this is handling exchange/sale property and turning it over to the disposal officer for sale as if it were surplus. If it were this case, would it not be required to go through donation property first?

Colonel DAVID. No, the property is identified as exchange/sale property. The only way that we can sell this property, or the way we normally sell the property is through the property disposal route whereby the PDO takes the property, identifies it, writes up a description and eventually it is put into a catalog and the item is sold. The item is identified through the entire procedure as an exchange/sale item, not a surplus item. Once the sale has been made, the proceeds from that particular item go into the account for the repurchase of a