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AD-A953 853



LABORATORY

REPORT

710/244

REPT NO. 710/244

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT TANKS

June 27, 1919

WATERTOWN ARSENAL
WATERTOWN, MASS.

CFP/ees
Tel. War Br. 1762
B-5-221

Lt. C. B. Purdy.

June 27, 1919.

From: Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division, Tank Section.

To: Commanding Officer, Watertown Arsenal, Watertown, Mass. 7/1/19

SUBJECT: WIRELESS TURRETS FOR 6-TON TANKS.

1. I am directed by the Chief of Ordnance to request that you advise this office your estimated cost and date of possible delivery on the following requirements;

"Machining and grinding of approximately 68,000 pounds of armor plate for the 6-ton Wireless Turrets"

2. The Government owns, at this date, approximately 36,000 pounds of armor plate, heat-treated and ballistically tested. This can be forwarded to you, the balance required (approximately 34,000 pounds) is now being negotiated with the firm of Henry Disston & Sons, Philadelphia, Pa., and if secured from this source will be shipped to the Watertown Arsenal.

3. The work required will be slotting, drilling or punching of holes, and the grinding of edges of plates, as shown in the following list of drawings;

31-31-2R,	revised Feb. 10, 1919.
31-31-370,	" Oct. 2, 1918.
31-31-371,	" "
31-31-372,	" "
31-31-373,	" "
31-31-374,	" "
31-31-375,	" Oct. 17, 1918
31-31-376,	" Oct. 2, 1918.
31-31-377,	" "

4. In order that the requirements may be met it is further requested that you make your quotations at the earliest possible date .

L. B. Moody,
Col., Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Chief of Division.

By: C. W. Keefer,
1st Lt., Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Tank Section.

9 incs.
Brown Prints.

copied inc

MT 470.5/141

CFP/ees
Tel. War Br. 1762
B-3-221

June 27, 1919.

Lt. C. F. Purdy.

Van Dorn Iron Works,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Sirs;

SUBJECT: WAR ORDER MT 21421

1. I am directed by the Chief of Ordnance to call your attention to the above War Order, and to advise that on account of certain developments issuing in the settlement of the Carbon Steel Company's Claim, the shipment of armor plate from this source for wireless turrets is indefinitely postponed.

2. However, enough armor plate is being made to secure the necessary plates from another source, and in view of the above facts this office would appreciate an expression from you as to your desires regarding the holding of the above order in abeyance. Awaiting the final outcome of the situation.

Respectfully,

L. B. Moody,
Col., Ord. Dept., U. S. A.
Chief of Division.

By: C. W. Keefer,
1st LT., Ord. Dept., U. S. A.
Tank Section.

copied 100

which was entirely a misunderstanding, as it was only brought to his attention as an alternative in case the desired agreement could not be reached with the Carbon Steel Company.

Archie K. Sears,
Major, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.

AKS/hh

1st Ind.

RHH/tp
War Tel. Br. 761
B-2-512

From: Contract Section, Administration Division. June 24, 1919.

To: Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division, Attention Maj. Carlson.

1. The cover memorandum was brought to this office by Lt. Col. Scovil and is now being forwarded to you for action.

By order of the Chief of Administration Division.

R. H. Hawkins,
Lt. Col., Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Chief of Contract Section.

copied 1cs

June 23, 1919.

From: Major A.K.Sears, Claims Board Staff.

To: Lt.Col. H.E.Scovil, Pittsburgh District Ordnance Office.

SUBJECT: WIRELESS TURRETS PLATES

1. Referring to letter from Carbon Steel Company dated June 21st, in regard to contract for wireless turret plates, it is noted that they propose entering into a contract to complete these sets at the former price of \$.51 per pound for steel and \$.45 per pound for machining, providing that the Pittsburgh Office will authorize them to take the plates out of storage and proceed with the machining. I have just talked over the telephone with Mr. Blue of the Carbon Steel Company and it is definitely understood that if the contract is executed along these lines, the Carbon Steel Company will credit the Government the exact amount allowed for these plates in the settlement of their claim; this credit to be applied either on the final payment of the claim, or upon payments under the contract, depending upon which payment is made first. I can see no objections whatever to this method of procedure and if it meets with the approval of Col. Moody and Lt. Col. Hawkins, it is the suggestion of the Carbon Steel Company that a contract along these lines be immediately prepared or the contract recently written be altered to conform with the above suggestions.

2. Mr. Blue made it plain that it was not the desire of the company to use this contract in any way to bring pressure to bear upon the settlement of the claim and all that they desired simply was that they receive the full contract price for the plates upon delivery.

3. There is attached hereto a list showing all ballistically tested plates for the wireless turrets either stored or in the possession of the Carbon Steel Company for the purpose of machining and there is also shown in this list a sufficient quantity of additional ballistically tested plates applying on other contracts, from which the remainder of the wireless turret plates could be cut if the Government desires to execute this order elsewhere than with the Carbon Steel Company. This is a complete list with the exception of plates 374-A, 374-B and 375-A, which plates cannot be cut from any heat-treated plates now on hand. All of these ballistically tested plates have been paid for by the Government at contract price for heat-treated steel and most of them were turned over to the Carbon Steel Company for machining prior to the termination of their contracts and were forwarded to their machinists for that purpose. It is, therefore, a legal question as to whether the Government can take possession of these plates prior to the settlement of the claim.

4. Your attention is called to the fact that in producing the plates under the different contracts, the Carbon Steel Company produced some sketches in numbers greatly in excess of other sketches and it is from these excess sizes that the above list of plates is taken, from which it is proposed to cut additional wireless turret plates. The question was brought to the attention of Col. Moody this morning by telephone and he seemed rather to resent the information as an insinuation that this office proposed to indicate to him a more economical method of procedure.

**STATEMENT OF PLATES RECEIVED FOR 68 AIR FORCE VEHICLES TO BE
SHOWING NUMBER AND CONDITION OF PLATES ON HAND. FR 160/6008**

**At Wash, DC. In Serv's IR. Comp. These IR. plates can be
shown on machines. Storage at Wash'd in used, from which to
in Inventory. Carbon Steel Co. Storage at out additional plates.**

Carbon S. Co. Pcs.	Wash	Inventory	Total Pcs.
100-1	1		1
100-2	1		1
100-3	1		1
100-4	1		1
100-5	1		1
100-6	1		1
100-7	1		1
100-8	1		1
100-9	1		1
100-10	1		1
100-11	1		1
100-12	1		1
100-13	1		1
100-14	1		1
100-15	1		1
100-16	1		1
100-17	1		1
100-18	1		1
100-19	1		1
100-20	1		1
100-21	1		1
100-22	1		1
100-23	1		1
100-24	1		1
100-25	1		1
100-26	1		1
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100-42	1		1
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100-46	1		1
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100-90	1		1
100-91	1		1
100-92	1		1
100-93	1		1
100-94	1		1
100-95	1		1
100-96	1		1
100-97	1		1
100-98	1		1
100-99	1		1
100-100	1		1

100-1 to 100-100 - There are 100 pcs. inventoried at Wash DC.
100-101 to 100-200 - There are 100 pcs. inventoried at Carbon Steel Co.

CARBON STEEL COMPANY

June 21, 1919.

Col. Moody,
Chief of the Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division,
6th and 3 Sts.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

We are attaching copies of letters addressed to Pittsburgh District Claims Board and Lt. Col. R. H. Hawkins, which are self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

C. F. Blue.
Vice-President.

CFB jr:B

Encls: 2

copied 100

CARBON STEEL COMPANY

June 21, 1919.

Pittsburgh District Claims Board,
Ordnance Department, Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gentlemen;

I desire to confirm that Major A.A. Sears, of your office, yesterday, while the writer was in Washington, D.C., called his office and asked whether he could wire Washington to get in touch with the writer in connection with a contract under negotiation with the Ordnance Department, for the completion of 60 sets wireless turrets. This information was forwarded to the writer by telephone, who called on Lt. Col. R.H. Hawkins, and, after explaining the situation to him fully, told him that the Carbon Steel Company in its previous negotiations with Lt. Purdy, had verbally agreed to complete 60 sets wireless turrets at a price of approximately 10¢ a pound for completing up to and including ballistic test, the required plates which are included in the claim of the Company. This price would have approximately covered the difference between the price charged for the plates necessary to complete 60 sets wireless turrets in the claim of the Company and the total selling price. It was explained that this arrangement had not been satisfactory to Major Sears because he would not approve the prices set forth in the claim or establish a value on the plates required for this work, which would enable us to either carry out the matter as originally suggested or negotiate on other lines. Col. Hawkins was then advised that the Carbon Steel Company would be willing to make a contract to complete 60 sets wireless turrets at 51¢ a pound, which is the selling price for the steel, and would then charge 45¢ a pound for machining, and would then credit the Government with the net amount received on account of the above price of 51¢ for steel received in the liquidation of the claim of the Carbon Steel Company, provided that Major Sears would authorize the Carbon Steel Company to take plates out of storage and proceed with the machining.

This morning the writer saw your Major Sears and reported to him the conversation of yesterday with Col. Hawkins, and requested Major Sears to give the Carbon Steel Company a letter authorizing the removal of plates from storage for the purpose of completion. This Major Sears first refused to do, and afterwards said he would consult Mr. Drave on Monday.

Please be advised that this situation is being reported to Col. R.H. Hawkins at Washington, as the impression was gathered that the Government was anxious for early action on this matter.

The Carbon Steel Company is willing to proceed to complete 60 sets wireless turrets along either of the lines above suggested and which is satisfactory to the Procurement Division in Washington.

Awaiting a letter from you in this matter.

Very truly yours,

CARBON STEEL COMPANY
V. H. HARRIS

CARBON STEEL COMPANY

June 21, 1919.

Lt. Col. H. W. Hawkins,
Ordnance Department,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Following conversation with you yesterday, the writer, on reaching Pittsburg this morning, went to see Major A.K. Sears of the Staff in the Pittsburg District Claims Board. He was requested to give the Carbon Steel Company a letter approving their removal from storage of sufficient plates to complete a prospective contract with the Ordnance Department for the completion of 60 sets wireless turrets. Major Sears first refused to do this, and then advised us that he would discuss the matter with Mr. Dravo upon his return to Pittsburgh next week.

We regret exceedingly the attitude taken in this matter, and have written today a letter to the Pittsburgh District Claims Board, copy of which is enclosed.

Awaiting further instructions,

Very truly yours,

CARBON STEEL COMPANY

Vice-President.

CBF jr:B

Enc.

copied ies

160
579
June 17, 1919

Pittsburgh, Pa., June 17, 1919.

Attention of Mr. A. S. Lewis.

Major W. S. Hawkins,
Chief of Contract Section,
Ordnance Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: war-ord-41-21425

We acknowledge receipt of your telegram requesting the return of the two signed copies of this order inasmuch as the order has not as yet been executed by us, as explained to Lt. Purdy over the telephone a few days ago.

Agreeable with your request, both copies of the order are enclosed herewith.

In connection with the return of this order, we desire to state that, on the occasion of the visit to Pittsburgh of Capt. Carlson and Lt. Purdy to arrange for the completion of 62 Wireless Turrets, we understood that the plates necessary for this work were available very promptly. Furthermore, all of these plates, as you no doubt understand, are part of our inventory on the basis of which our claim has been presented to the Government, and these plates have been included in our claim at a certain figure prescribed by a Settlement Contract, dated January 11, 1919, on the basis of which we stopped further work. At the time of Capt. Carlson and Lt. Purdy's visit, the price for this work was discussed and an agreement reached at 60¢ per pound for the finished weight. This figure on our part was based upon our receiving payment for the plates in our claim on the basis of the figures at which they had been entered in the claim. It now develops that the figures which we used in the claim have been changed, so that we are now unable to ascertain at what price these plates have been included. Consequently, we are unable to execute the contract or to proceed with the necessary work, and will be unable to do so until we can secure definite information in connection with our claim.

There are a few points in the procurement order (some of which are typographical errors) which would require correction in the event we proceed with this work. These points, however, can be taken care of later on.

Yours very truly,

Asst General Sales Agent.

WWS/E

1st Ind.

MT 2142E
MT 160/6679

EBC/awh
Tel.Br. 2351
B-2-314

From: Contract Section, Administration Division, June 20, 1919.
To: Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division, attention Lt. Purdy.

1. Forwarded for your information.

By order of the Chief of the Administration Division.

R. H. Hawkins,
Major, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Chief of Contract Section.

By:
E. B. Cooper,
Capt., Ord. Dept. U.S.A.

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WAR DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM

A 178 G 84 GOVT 1/73

PITTSBURGH PENN 1230 P 19

ARMY ORDINANCE
WASHINGTON

MOODY'S TELEGRAM TWO NAUGHT THREE NINE SIZE FOURTEENTH PERIOD
SEE NO POSSIBLE WAY OF MAKING AGREEMENT WITH CARBON FOR
ARMOR PLATE REQUIRED FOR WIRELESS TURRETS UNTIL CLAIM IS
FINALLY SETTLED PERIOD SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM IS STILL
UNCERTAIN PERIOD IF WATERTOWN CAN FURNISH THESE PLATES
WOULD CANCEL CONTRACT WITH CARBON PERIOD CERTAIN OF THE
PLATES IN HEAT TREATED CONDITION HAVE BEEN INSPECTED
AND PAID FOR AND POSSESSION CAN BE TAKEN PERIOD
CAPTAIN CARBON HAS A LIST OF THESE PLATES

DRAVO DISTRICT CHIEF

copied 108

Ordinance

first day message

LBM:hb
Tel. War Br. 1167
B-6-227

June 19, 1919.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT ORDNANCE OFFICE
PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

REFERENCE YOUR WIRE NINETEENTH ASSUMED CARBON STEEL HAS
DELIBERATELY REFUSED TO FURNISH PLATE WITH VIEW OF FORCING
MORE FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT OF THEIR CLAIM PERIOD UNDER
CIRCUMSTANCES THIS OFFICE PREPARING TO OBTAIN ARMOR
DESIRED FROM ANOTHER SOURCE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THAT
ALREADY INSPECTED AND PAID FOR PERIOD REQUEST SETTLEMENT
OF CLAIM BE IN NO WAY AFFECTED BY OUR DESIRE TO OBTAIN
PLATE IN QUESTION PERIOD REQUEST COPIES OF CONTRACT NOW IN HANDS
OF CARBON COMPANY BE RETURNED TO THIS OFFICE

MOODY

20768

ARMY ORDNANCE

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

CFP/1e
Gen. War Br. 1702
B-3-221

June 14, 1919.

From: Capt. R. E. Carlson, Tank Tractor and Trailer Division, Tank Section.

To: Major R. H. Hawkins, Administration Division, Contract Section.

SUBJECT: CONTRACT # MT:1425

1. It is requested that you withdraw from the Carbon Steel Company the above mentioned Contract MT 21425 for the finishing of armor plate for the 6-ton Wireless Turrets.

2. This action is deemed advisable in order to meet the requirements of this Section.

R. E. Carlson,
Capt., Ord. Dept., U. S. A.
Tank Section.

cc led 100

INTRAOFFICE MEMORANDUM

CFP/emh
Tel. Rm. Br. 1762
B-3-221

June 12, 1919.

From; Lt. C. F. Purdy, T. I. & T. Tank Section.
To; Capt. A. M. Harrison, "

SUBJECT: ORDER FOR WIRELESS TURRETS

1. The original order for Wireless Turrets was issued under date of Nov. 6, 1918, P 17784-2699 ME calling for 281 sets of Wireless Turrets, 51¢ per pound for the Steel, heat-treated and tested and 45¢ per pound for the finished plate machined except parts No. 100-A and 100-B which was to be 65¢ per pound.
2. This Contract was never mailed to the Contractor on account of the Armistice. This work had, however, been started. Negotiations had been entered into prior to October 1, 1918.
3. Under date of Dec. 2, questionnaires on the above contract was filed by the Pittsburgh District Office showing the equivalent of one set had been heat-treated and tested and that all plates had been rolled.
4. Under date of Dec. 10, letter was written from the Raw Materials Section, Procurement Division to Contract Section, Procurement Division, through General Control signed by Major W. M. McCleary advising 60 sets necessary to complete present requirements, immediate suspension of balance followed by termination and adjustment is recommended. For authority of paragraph one, letter from Lt. Col. Alden, Dec. 10, 1918.
5. Numerous letters regarding the finishing of 60 sets were written and received in an endeavor to obtain the completion of this order or requirements namely, 60 sets.
6. On March 28, 1919, a list of the condition of plates was furnished this office, advising that 871 plates had been delivered and charged to the Government. 901 plates required to complete the 60 sets.
7. Under date of March 18, 1919, a contract was sent to the Carbon Steel Company by the Contract Section for the completion of 60 sets. This was returned with a letter of objection as to ballistic test, etc.
8. The Procurement Section agreed to accept the changes of the Contract so again sent out contract for signature but was never signed, the reason given was that the acceptance of this Contract would interfere with the claims filed with the Pittsburgh District Ordnance Office.

9. On April 7, Lt. Purdy was sent to Pittsburgh to negotiate with the Carbon Steel Company with the cooperation of the Pittsburgh District Claims Board to secure the armor plates necessary to complete the finishing of the CO turrets.

10. A meeting was arranged and held between Messrs. Blue and Noble of the Carbon Steel Company, Major Sears, Mr. Halton and Lt. Lasker of the Pittsburgh Office and Lt. Purdy of the Tank Section. The result of this meeting was an agreement that the Carbon Steel Company would accept a new order or contract to heat-treat, machine and test the necessary plates required. If they, the Carbon Steel Company, were assured by the District Claims Board that the arrangement would not interfere with or retard settlement of their claim filed with the Claims Board, who agreed to the arrangement, namely, that the Claims Board were to release from the inventory filed by the Carbon Steel Company the necessary plates deducting same from inventory.

11. Mr. Blackton, attorney for the Carbon Steel Company, insisted having a statement signed by the Claims Board. Lt. Col. Drake as head of the District Claims Board declined to do this. The matter was then held in abeyance until April 9, awaiting the arrival of Lt. Col. F. P. Ayer and Lt. Col. Delafield, of the Washington Claims Board. No agreement was reached at this conference.

12. A number of letters passed between the Washington Office and the Pittsburgh Office until May 19, when Mr. Halton of the Pittsburgh Office 'phoned to Captain Carlson that they were ready to negotiate contract with the Carbon Steel Company as an agreement had been reached that A.M.

13. On May 22, Capt. Carlson and Lt. Purdy went to Pittsburgh and negotiated with the Carbon Steel Company a new contract, MT 21425, to perform all necessary work to complete 62 sets of armor plate for the 6-ton Wireless Turret. Approximately 63,000 lbs. @ 60¢ per lb. This Contract was dated May 23, was sent out by the Contract Section on June 4.

14. On May 23, letter MT 470-5/116 to the Pittsburgh Ordnance Office advising them as to result of conference and requesting them to arrange to have the armor plate turned over to the Carbon Steel Company. The contract was received by the Carbon Steel Company on June 6, and to June 10 no reply was made.

15. On June 11, called up the Carbon Steel Company but was unable to reach anyone. On June 12, today, got in touch with Mr. Noble of the Carbon Steel Company and was informed that on account of developments issue from the Pittsburgh District Claims Board, would interfere with them signing the contract at this time.

16. The situation of the armor plate for the Wireless Turret stands to date as follows;

Plates required approx.	70,000 lbs.
Owned by Government approx.	36,000 lbs.
To complete "	34,000 lbs in inventory, property of the Carbon Steel Co. filed with the District Claims Board.

17. If the balance of approximately 34,000 pounds can be secured the plates can be finished.

18. Contract MT 21412 has already been made and signed with the Van Dorn Iron Works of Cleveland, Ohio, for the assembling and mounting of these Wireless Turrets on tanks now in their possession.

C.P. Purdy,
1st.Lt.,Ord.Ept.,U.S.A.

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

June 11, 1919.
cmh/ww

FROM: Pittsburgh District Ordnance Office.
TO: Tank, Fracter & Trailer Section, Ordnance Office,
Washington, D. C. Attention: Capt. Carlson.
SUBJECT: WIRELESS TURRETS - CARBON STEEL COMPANY.

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470
6

1. Pursuant to our conversation as to when Carbon Steel Company would be ready to sign contract for wireless turrets, the writer called Mr. Noble several times but so far has been unable to get a definite date. It seems that Carbon Steel Company is having a little trouble at this time in regard to their settlement contract so that they have been very busy and have been unable to take up this matter but expect to do so within a few days.

2. I have requested Mr. Noble to let me know when they are ready to sign and will advise you at once; in the meanwhile, I will keep in touch with the situation.

By direction of the District Chief.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT ORDNANCE OFFICE

By:

E. E. HAYDEN

3382

May 24, 1919.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN CARLSON'S AND LT. PURDY'S VISIT TO PITTSBURGH TO SECURE ARMOR PLATE FOR 6-TON WIRELESS TURRETS.

1. On May 19, Mr. Halton of the Pittsburgh District Office 'phoned to Captain Carlson that they were ready to negotiate contract with the Carbon Steel Company to complete Armor Plate for Wireless Turrets as an agreement had been reached that morning.

2. On May 22, Captain Carlson and Lt. Purdy were sent to Pittsburgh to arrange a contract to meet requirements. Upon arrival at the Pittsburgh District Office they were informed that an agreement had been reached between the Carbon Steel Company and the Claims Board of the Pittsburgh District Office whereby the balance of the required amount of armor plate was to be released from the inventory filed by the Carbon Steel Company with the Pittsburgh Claims Board. With this understanding in view the question of price was taken up with Major Sears.

3. Major Sears furnished a list of the cost of steel and fabricating same; also an estimate of weights, as follows;

Cost		
Green Plates		\$.22 per lb.
Heat Treating)		
Straightening)	.0460	
Handling	.0080	
Rifle Test	.0040	
Rejection at range	<u>.0010</u>	
Total cost, green plates to test	.0590	
Machining	<u>.18</u>	
		<u>.24 per lb.</u>
		\$.46 per lb.

Estimated weights required to machine 72,120 lbs.
to heat treat, etc. 35,000 lbs.

4. Mr. Blue and Mr. Noble of the Carbon Steel Company were then called into the conference. They expressed their willingness to negotiate a contract. The Carbon Steel Company submitted their price to completion .46 per pound for machining and .20 per pound for heat treating. Taking the estimated weight required, this would net them as follows;

72,120 lbs. @ 45¢ per lb.	\$33,400.00.
35,000 lbs. @ 20¢ per lb.	7,000.00.
Total	\$40,400.00.

5. These figures were based on the original order calling for 221 sets approximately 365,000 pounds. This was considered by the Carbon Steel Company as reasonable, taking into consideration the difference in weight and the fact that the contractor was out of production.

If this proposition had been accepted, it would allow the Carbon Steel Company to take any plates that they could get a hold of and could run up the cost as they would be paid for the exact amount of work done. Captain Carlson presented the Government side. The original contract price was as follows;

Steel	51¢ per lb.
Machining	45¢ per lb.
Total	96¢ per lb.
Actual Cost	46¢ per lb.
Profit to Carbon Steel Co.	50¢ per lb.

6. After considerable argument, the Carbon Steel Company finally agreed to accept the contract based upon the finished weights, approximately 65,000 pounds for heat treating, machining and tested armor plates, ready for shipment, f.o.b. cars Pittsburgh for the sum of 60¢ per lb.

7. A specimen copy of contract was written and accepted by Mr. Noble on behalf of the Carbon Steel Company and Captain R.E. Carlson on behalf of the Government. The Government is to furnish all the steel, the Contractor to do all the finishing.

Comparison of prices;

(Submitted by the Carbon Steel Company)

Machining 72,120 lbs. @ 45¢ per lb.	\$32,400.00.
Heat Treating and Machining 35,000 lbs. @ 20¢ per lb.	7,000.00.
Total	<u>\$39,400.00.</u>
Contract made, finished armor plate, from green & treated steel 65,000 lbs. @ 60¢ per lb.	<u>37,800.00.</u>
A saving of	\$ 1,600.00.

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COPY OF ORIGINAL DRAFT DICTATED BY CAPTAIN CARLSON AND TYPED BY
MR. NOBLE OF THE CARBON STEEL COMPANY AND ACCEPTED BY THE CARBON
STEEL COMPANY

Carbon Steel Company,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

May 16, 1919

Gentlemen:

The United States of America, acting thru the undersigned, under direction of the Acting Chief of Ordnance, hereby gives you an order to perform the work necessary to complete sixty-two (62) sets of armor plate for Wireless Turrets for the 6-ton Tank, Model 1917. This order is hereby made subject to the "Additional terms and Conditions" annexed hereto and a part hereof.

2. These armor plates shall conform to Ordnance Office drawings 31-31-2R, revised October 17, 1918; to Ordnance Office Form #434, last revised March 15, 1917; parts 100-A, 100-B and 76-C shall not be supplied as these shall be taken from stock now on hand at the Van Dorn Iron Works.

3. These armor plates shall conform to Ordnance Office drawings

(List of drawings)

and shall be subject to the following ballistic tests;

(Insert tests)

(Under "B" insert alternate of 2700 P 8)

Ammunition to be furnished by the U.S.A.

4. Payment shall be made on the basis of sixty cents (.60¢) per pound on the weight of finished plates, approximately 1,000¢ per set, accepted by the Inspector and this payment shall be made thru the District Ordnance Office at Pittsburgh from funds provided for this Contract upon presentation of vouchers certifying that the material in question has been accepted.

5. Delivery shall be made F O B Pittsburgh, Pa., and within forty-five working days from date of receipt of Contract, it being understood that everything possible will be done to expedite the delivery.

The undersigned contracting officer, in accordance with Purchase and Storage notice #62, dated Feb. 6, 1919, hereby certifies that it is his belief that price basis, stated herein, is fair and reasonable for the quantity named.

The material shall be furnished by the U.S.A. from partially completed material shown in the inventory filed by the Contractor with the Pittsburgh District Claims Board and this Contract covers only the necessary work to place this partially completed material in a completed state.

This letter will constitute a Contract upon acceptance noted hereon by the Contractor and as passed by the Board of Review.

Inspection will be made by the Inspection Division of the Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division, and it is understood that inspection will be made in such a manner as not to cause any delay in deliveries.

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CFP/lad
War Tel.Br.1762
B-3-221

May 23, 1919.

KT
Lt. C.F. Purdy.

From; Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division.

To; Pittsburgh District Ordnance Office,
Pittsburg, Penna.
Att. Lt. Col. Scoville.

SUBJECT: ARMOR PLATE FOR 6-ton WIRELESS TURRETS

1. Referring to the conference held in your office on May 22, between Major Sears and Mr. Halton of your office, Messrs. Blue and Noble of the Carbon Steel Company, Lt. Purdy and the writer, regarding the Armor Plate for the 6-ton Wireless Turrets, would advise that satisfactory arrangements were made with the Carbon Steel Company whereby they were to accept a contract for the finishing of the necessary plates to complete 62 sets of armor plates for Wireless Turrets. It is deemed advisable to add three extra sets of plates for spares, in addition to the 59 required.

2. The contract is now being prepared and will be forwarded to your office by the Contract Section, Administration Division, within the next few days.

3/ The material to complete this contract is to be furnished to the Carbon Steel Company by the United States, and it is the understanding of this office that satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Claims Board of your District to deduct from the inventory file and turn over to the Carbon Steel Company the necessary plates required.

4. You are, therefore, requested to have this matter attended to at the earliest possible date, in order that this Division's requirements may be met and that the specified deliveries of contract may be carried out.

5. Should there develop any question which will make it impossible for the immediate delivery of these plates, it is, therefore, requested that you advise this office at once, so that necessary steps may be taken to complete the requirements of the Tank Section.

L. B. Moody,
Colonel, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Chief of Division.

By:
E. S. Carlson,
Captain, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Tank Section.

CFP/emh
Tel. War Br. 1147
B-3-219

15 May, 1919.

C.F. Purdy, Lt.	Tank, Tractor and Trailer	Tank.
R.E. Carlson, Capt.	" " " "	Tank.

ARMOR PLATE FOR WIRELESS TURRETS

1. In an effort made to secure armor plates for the 60 wireless turrets, a trip to Pittsburg was made on April 8, 1919 in which a conference was arranged between the officers of the Pittsburg District Office, Messrs. Blue, Noble and Blackton of the Carbon Steel Company, in an effort to reach some decision. No results were obtained at this conference and it was decided to meet again on the following morning, Wednesday April 9, to consult with Colonel Ayers and Colonel Delfield of Washington. No decision was reached at this meeting.

2. On April 16, MT 160/407, letter from Pittsburg District Office signed by E.R. Halton, in which he states that vouchers had been signed by the Pittsburg Finance Section to the amount of \$22,000. This releases 871 plates, totalling approximately 36,000 pounds. This is about one-half the amount of plates required to complete the 60 wireless turrets.

3. There are still 901 plates needed, totalling approximately 34,000 pounds, of which numerous efforts have been made to obtain possession of in order that we may negotiate new contracts to complete the program.

4. To this date, after numerous telephoning, telegrams and letter-writing, no definite action has been arrived at and up to the 14th. inst., last advises received from Pittsburg, were that they hoped to make a settlement with the Carbon Steel Company about the first of next week. This is the same answer we have received for the last two months, and at this date, as far as this office is concerned, the matter stands as when started April 8th.

C.F. Purdy,
1st. Lt., Ord. Dept., U.S.A.

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WAR DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM

May 17, 1919.

Pittsburg District Office,
Pittsburg, Pa.
Attention Mr. R. M. Dravo.

Reference Carbon Steel Company armor plate for wireless turrets period
Letters dated April twenty-fourth signed Halton and numerous telephone
calls since then gave information that early settlement could be expect-
ed period Situation apparently same now as it was two months ago and
armor plates are needed so urgently that quick action must be had period
Original plan as outlined when Lt. Purdy was in Pittsburg April ninth
was to obtain possession of the plates necessary to complete fifty sets
and then negotiate new contract to cover machine work period Advise
immediately exact status and why possession of plates necessary to com-
plete fifty sets cannot be obtained so that turret assembly now being
held up can be completed.

Moody,

Army Ordnance.

ONE NINE ONE THREE NINE

Deliver reply to
Capt. R. E. Carlson,
Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division.

Copied ics

CFP/emh
Tel. War Br. 1762
D-3-221

Lt. C. F. Purdy.

June 18, 1919.

Henry Disston & Sons, Inc.,
Philadelphia, Pa.
Attention: Mr. E. B. Roberts, Vice-Pres.

Sirs:

URGENT: ARMOR PLATE FOR INDEPENDENT TURRETS

1. I am directed by the Chief of Ordnance to confirm a visit of Lt. C. F. Purdy to your plant on June 16, 1919, and in confirmation of same would request that you submit to this Section at the earliest possible date your best price and delivery on the following requirements.

2. Approximately 34,900 lbs. of armor plate .312 and .600 thick, heat-treated and ballistically tested as specified below and shown on drawings:

86 plates	31-31-370B	133 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	11,305 lbs.
17 "	31-31-372B	73 lbs. ea.	.600 "	1,241 lbs.
69 "	31-31-373A	36 lbs. ea.	.312 "	2,124 lbs.
69 "	31-31-373B	36 lbs. ea.	.312 "	2,124 lbs.
69 "	31-31-374A	70 lbs. ea.	.312 "	4,130 lbs.
69 "	31-31-374B	70 lbs. ea.	.312 "	4,130 lbs.
69 "	31-31-375A	70 lbs. ea.	.312 "	4,130 lbs.
49 "	31-31-377A	13½ lbs. ea.	.600 "	661½ lbs.
69 "	31-31-377B	8 lbs. ea.	.600 "	472 lbs.
69 "	31-31-377C	13½ lbs. ea.	.600 "	791½ lbs.
69 "	31-31-377D	10 lbs. ea.	.312 "	690 lbs.
69 "	31-31-377E	13½ lbs. ea.	.600 "	791½ lbs.
69 "	31-31-377F	8 lbs. ea.	.312 "	472 lbs.
69 "	31-31-377G	10 lbs. ea.	.600 "	690 lbs.
64 "	31-31-377H	10 lbs. ea.	.600 "	540 lbs.
67 "	31-31-377K	10 lbs. ea.	.600 "	570 lbs.
<u>911</u>				<u>34,862½</u> lbs.

17,700 lbs. of .312 thick
16,962½ " " .600 "

to be subject to the following ballistic test;

(a) For plates .312 thick not less than 64 square inches, clear of holes, use 5 shots of service ammunition with a muzzle velocity of 2700 ft. per second at one point on plate at 10 yds. On plates less than 64 sq. in. one shot will suffice at the same range, using same ammunition.

(b) For plates .600 thick, three shots of armor piercing bullets, muzzle velocity 2800 ft. per second, direct impact. For plates less than 148 in. clear of holes at 50 yds. widely separated one shot will suffice. For plates not having uninterrupted area of 148 square inches.

3. Would request that you submit your price on the above as one item.

4. Plates to be machined and edges ground;

33 plates	31-31-370B	133 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	4,389 lbs.
118 "	31-31-371B	61 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	7,198 lbs.
101 "	31-31-372B	73 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	7,373 lbs.
89 "	31-31-374C	44 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	2,596 lbs.
118 "	31-31-374E	53 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	3,953 lbs.
118 "	31-31-376B	53 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	3,953 lbs.
59 "	31-31-376C	39 lbs. ea.	.512 thick	2,001 lbs.
59 "	31-31-376D	55 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	2,080 lbs.
10 "	31-31-377A	13 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	135 lbs.
5 "	31-31-377H	8 lbs. ea.	.512 thick	40 lbs.
2 "	31-31-377K	10 lbs. ea.	.600 thick	20 lbs.
<u>682 "</u>				<u>34,038 lbs.</u>

together with the amount specified as armor plates, treated and tested 911 plates, 34,062 1/2 lbs. a total of 68,700 1/2 lbs.

5. The quotation should be made on this amount separate, for machining and grinding only as shown on drawing 31-31-2R,

31-31-370 revised Oct. 2, 1918.

31-31-371	"	"	"	"
31-31-372	"	"	"	"
31-31-373	"	"	"	"
31-31-374	"	"	"	"
31-31-375	"	"	17.	"
31-31-376	"	"	2.	"
31-31-377	"	"	"	"

and Ordnance Department Booklet, "Instructions to Bidders #434".

6. The experience of the most successful manufacturers of this thickness of armor plate have found the following analysis to give the best results;

Carbon	Manganese	Sul. & Phos.	Sil.	Cr.	Nickle
.45/.55	.40/.60	under .04	.15/.25	.50/.75	1.00/1.50

The heat treatment was by running the plates through an open ended oil heated furnace at a temperature of 1500° to 1600°F. requiring from 10 to 15 minutes time in running through furnace. Squelch in water at a temperature of 450° F, draw to 600°F. Brinnell test 350 to 450.

7. The above data, paragraph 6, is furnished for your information on y and is not regarded as any part of the specifications; requirements are that the armor plate pass the ballistic test regardless of analysis or treatment.

8. Attached hereto find copy of Ordnance Department Booklet, "Instructions to Bidders" #434.

9. Trusting with this information you will be able to submit your quotation at an early date.

Respectfully,

L.S. Woody,
Colonel, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Chief of Division.

By:
R.E. Carlson,
Captain, Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Tank Section.

Incl.
(booklet)

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TANK TRACTOR AND TRAILER DIVISION

Capt. R. E. Carlson.

June 14, 1919.

REC/1ad
War Tel. Br. 2046
B-3-216

Memorandum of telephone conversation between
Mr. Dravo at Pittsburgh, Pa., and Captain
Carlson in Washington.

REMARKS: WHEEL PLATE CONTRACTS FOR WIRELESS TANKS.

1. Mr. Walton of the Pittsburgh Office talked first for Mr. Dravo, who is District Chief, and said that they were still negotiating with the Carbon Steel Company. He could give no satisfactory answer as to why the Carbon Steel Company would not sign the contract as they had promised to do when Captain Carlson was at Pittsburgh, and, therefore, asked for Mr. Dravo.

2. Mr. Dravo stated that the Carbon Steel Company were attempting to use this contract as a club to force an early settlement of their entire claim, and that Mr. Blackston, the counsel for the Company, was in his office at the time and stated that they would not sign the contract until a settlement of the claim had been made.

3. I pointed out to Mr. Dravo that this was an absolute contradiction to their promise made to Captain Carlson and Lieut. Purdy, in which they agreed to sign the contract as approved at that time. Mr. Dravo agreed that this attitude on the part of the Carbon Steel Company was not at all right, and it was to be deplored very much.

In connection with this telephone conversation, Lieut. Purdy called up the Henry Disston & Sons, at Philadelphia, with reference to our requirements, and will go to Philadelphia on Monday, taking with him all the necessary data to get an estimate as to the cost of completing the work.

We can then, if necessary, ship the partial material which is at the Carbon Company plant and which is the property of the U.S. Government, to Henry Disston & Sons, have them do the necessary work, and in addition roll about 34,000 lbs. of steel to complete the requirements. When we have this information, I will go to the Pittsburgh District Office and see Mr. Dravo and arrange for shipping instructions.

Watertown Arsenal will be consulted as to whether they are in a position to take care of heat-treating.

R. E. Carlson,
Capt., Ord. Dept., U.S.A.
Tank Section.

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Ordnance

Fast Day Message

L.B.M;hb
Tel War Br.1137
B-3-227

June 14, 1919.

PITTSBURGH ORDNANCE DISTRICT OFFICE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING
PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

REQUEST YOU ASCERTAIN IN WRITING OR VERBALLY IN PRESENCE OF WITNESSES FROM CARBON TRAIL COMPANY REASONS FOR THEIR REFUSAL TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR ARMOR PLATE FOR WIRELESS TURRETS AFTER PREVIOUSLY AGREEING TO ACCEPT SAME PERIOD EXPLAIN TO COMPANY THAT THIS DEPARTMENT IS NOT DEPENDENT ON THEM AS WORK CAN BE DONE AT WATERTOWN ARSENAL AND THEIR REFUSAL TO SIGN WILL IN NO WAY EXPEDITE SETTLING OF THEIR CLAIM PERIOD PRICES PAID ON PAST CONTRACTS WITH THIS COMPANY WILL VERY LIKELY BE SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION BY CONGRESS AND APPARENT EFFORT TO USE DELAY IN SIGNING OF PRESENT CONTRACT AS A MEANS OF FORCING GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE THEIR CLAIM WILL SHOW UP EXTREMELY BADLY FOR COMPANY AT TIME OF INVESTIGATION PERIOD REQUEST IMMEDIATE ACTION AND INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER THIS COMPANY HAS ACCEPTED CONTRACT OR POSITIVELY REFUSES TO ACCEPT SAME.

MOODY

ARMY ORDNANCE

DELIVER REPLY TO
Col.L.B.Moody,
Tank, Tractor and Trailer Division.

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INTRAOFFICE MEMORANDUM

6/12/19

From; Lt.C.F.Purdy, TanknSection.

To; Capt.A.S.Carlson, Tank Section.

SUBJECT: WIRELESS TURRETS

Mr.Noble of the Carbon Steel Company advises receipt of contract on Fridaylast,June 6,1919, and states that the reason that it has not been signed and returned,is, that certain developments issuing from the Claims Board of the Pittsburgh District Office,prevents them from signing the contract at this time. Mr.Noble will advise Major Hawkins of action taken by the Carbon Steel Company and will mail to this Section a copy of the letter. This information was secured over the 'phone at 10.30 a.m.,today.

Signed

C.F.P.

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