

Under the new Directive, each of the military Services is authorized to conduct preliminary research to develop new ways of using space technology to perform its assigned function within limitations to be fixed by the Director of Defense Research and Engineering. When these studies result in proposals for research and development projects, the military Services will submit the proposals to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering who will recommend to the Secretary those proposals which he believes should be developed.

Upon approval of the project by the Secretary of Defense, the management of further research and development of the project will become the responsibility of the Department of the Air Force unless, in the opinion of the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary of Defense, unusual circumstances justify assignment of the particular project to another Service.

The Directive does not affect space research and development assignments previously made.

The CHAIRMAN. At the present time, only three days have been definitely programmed to go into these matters. In the interest of conserving time, without objection, certain staff studies under preparation of a factual background nature will be placed in the record for the benefit of the committee. There will also be some matters which cannot be developed with the witnesses to the extent necessary to complete the record during these three days. Some pertinent views of Department of Defense witnesses have already been made known to the committee, and without objection where the present testimony is incomplete, abstracts of such earlier testimony which will round out committee consideration of the issues will be added to this record. Members of the committee will have many questions for the witnesses. May I suggest that pertinent questions which may not have been answered in these hearings be given to the witnesses for inclusion with their replies as a part of the record.

The Chair cannot help but notice a certain coincidence of difficulty in obtaining the attendance at these hearings of the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, and the Secretary of the Air Force, even though each has offered an excuse.

I might say that I talked to the Secretary of the Air Force and he explained his position to me and I was satisfied with it, but I understand this morning that he has cancelled his plans to go to Europe and will be here next week.

We have also noted a certain foot-dragging in making available the military witnesses who will be most affected by this directive.

Let me state, by way of summary, what we hope to learn from the witnesses. We should like a statement of the circumstances which governed the making of this decision. We wish to be given as much insight as possible as to how the Department of Defense plans to implement this directive. We wish to sample the opinions of the three military departments and Services as to how they expect to be affected by this directive, and how they will have to adjust their plans to comply with its terms. We would also like to test by example in questions and answers how the directive may bear on relations between the Department of Defense or the Services, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

This morning we have two witnesses from the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Specifically we have Hon. Roswell L. Gilpatric, Deputy Secretary of Defense, and Hon. Charles J. Hitch, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller). At this point in the record, we shall insert their biographies.