

have been made familiar with it, partly with the knowledge we obtained before we came and what we have ascertained since.

Prior to the orbiting of Sputnik I in October 1957, the development of space projects was the responsibility of the individual Services. Interservice coordination was effected through interservice committees. The orbiting of Sputnik demonstrated the need for greater urgency in the development of both our ballistic missile and space programs and the need for stronger central direction and control. Accordingly, early in 1958 Secretary McElroy created within the Office of the Secretary of Defense the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) and assigned to it the responsibility for the research and development of advanced research programs. Subsequently, Congress gave statutory recognition to this agency. From the time of the establishment of ARPA, research and development of space programs and projects within the Department of Defense has been under the centralized management of the Department of Defense, and the military Services have played only such roles as have been assigned to them by the Secretary of Defense.

Upon the creation of the Office of the Director of Research and Engineering by the enactment of the 1958 amendments to the National Security Act of 1947 supervision and control of ARPA's activities were assigned to the Director of Defense Research & Engineering.

May I interpolate here that Dr. York, who now occupies that office, has been absent on leave. As you may have read, he is unfortunately leaving the Department of Defense to become chancellor of the new La Jolla division of the University of California and he made plans to go out in connection with that new assignment but he will be back here and I am sure he will be glad to appear before this committee if the committee desires to hear from him personally in connection with its inquiry.

In 1958, Congress established the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and during that year the Department of Defense transferred to it those programs which were basically non-military in character. The remaining military space programs continued to be developed by ARPA.

In September 1959, Secretary McElroy, determining that research and development of current space programs had reached a point where further development could be assigned to the Services, assigned to the Air Force responsibility for the development and production and launching of space boosters and the necessary systems integration incident thereto, if approved by the Secretary of Defense.

(The memorandum in question is as follows:)

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, D.C., September 18, 1959.

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
SUBJECT: *Coordination of Satellite and Space Vehicle Operations*

(First paragraph Classified and deleted.)

The Director of Defense Research and Engineering considers that the numbers of satellite vehicles to be launched and the numbers of satellites expected to be in orbit in any one period over the next several years will not be large. Nevertheless, the advent of military satellite and space vehicle systems has national security implications which emphasize the need for over-all control and coordination of the military activity pertaining thereto.