

The establishment of a joint military organization with control over operational space systems does not appear desirable at this time. The utilization of the present organization of the Military Departments appears preferable in order to realize full advantage from existing support capabilities, to eliminate conflicting research and development interests and responsibility, and to simplify fiscal accounting.

Although the research and development leading to the demonstration of operational feasibility will continue to be the responsibility of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for the time being, it appears desirable at this time to begin the development of a plan for the orderly transfer of space projects to the appropriate military departments. This transfer will normally be made during the development phase at an appropriate time to be determined by the Secretary of Defense.

Satellite and space vehicle operations will be assigned to the appropriate military department after consideration of the primary interest or special competence of the respective service. Where no one military department has primary interest or special competence, consideration will be given to special competency in associated fields of development.

The responsibility for the development, production and launching of space boosters and the necessary systems integration incident thereto, as approved by the Secretary of Defense, will be assigned to the Department of the Air Force except for such research and development as may be conducted by ARPA.

The specific assignment of the payload for space and satellite systems will be assigned separately to the appropriate military department which, in addition to budgeting for the payload, will also budget and reimburse the Department of the Air Force for the necessary boosters, launching vehicles and other unique equipment required in launching and necessary systems integration.

The following specific assignments for payload development and payload research and development support and production improvement are approved:

- (a) Interim satellite early warning system—Air Force.
- (b) Phase I of satellite reconnaissance system—Air Force.
- (c) Interim satellite navigation system—Navy.
- (d) Interim satellite communications system—Army.

The date of transfer of the above-listed systems from the Advanced Research Projects Agency will be approved by the Secretary of Defense upon the recommendation of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering. Assignment of other systems that may be developed will be determined later.

Prior to assuming responsibility for a particular satellite and space vehicle program, the appropriate military department will submit to the Secretary of Defense for approval detailed plans for the system including user relationships with the Unified and Specified Commands and other appropriate agencies. The Secretary of Defense will refer such plans to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for comment and recommendation.

The Director of Defense Research and Engineering will review and approve the detailed research and development programs in the space and satellite field utilizing where appropriate the support of the Advanced Research Projects Agency in order to insure the most efficient and effective utilization of the Department of Defense resources in this field. Particular attention should be given to the desirability of incorporating where practicable, more than one payload or system in a particular satellite.

/s/ NEIL McELROY.

Secretary GILPATRIC. I might remind the committee that in his directive of September 1959 Secretary McElroy made a finding that at that time a joint military organization to control space systems would not be desirable.

In other words, he did consider one of the alternatives we considered in connection with the directive now before the committee.

In addition, he made specific assignments for payload development and payload research, development, support and production improvements to the several Services. Samos and Midas were assigned for further development to the Air Force, Transit to the Navy and Advent to the Army. Further assignment of additional projects were to be determined at a later time.