

Mr. ANFUSO. And is NASA consulted by this coordinating board?

Secretary GILPATRIC. It has equal representation. Its deputy director is co-chairman of the board.

Mr. ANFUSO. And you say now you have no intention of infringing upon any of the rights of NASA?

Secretary GILPATRIC. That is correct.

Mr. ANFUSO. Now, one more question.

Did the Army and the Navy raise written objections to this new directive?

Secretary GILPATRIC. They did. In response to Mr. Fulton's question, I have said they would be furnished for the information of the committee.

(By later decision, the material in question was not made available to the committee.)

Mr. FULTON. Would the gentleman yield on that point?

Mr. ANFUSO. Yes, I yield.

Mr. FULTON. The question comes up because there is quite a grapevine that extends from the Pentagon up to Capital Hill.

Secretary GILPATRIC. So I have found.

Mr. FULTON. There are many roots and many vines..

On the very day the directive was issued, rumor has it there was a meeting at the Joint Chiefs of Staff at which seven people were present, and the vote then, with possibly some Secretaries present as well as the Joint Chiefs, the vote was then six to one against this directive.

Now, was that an official meeting, an unofficial meeting, if there was a meeting; and, secondly, is that right?

Secretary GILPATRIC. If there was a meeting, it is news to me. The Secretary and I meet with the Joint Chiefs once a week. We meet with the Secretaries frequently. I never heard of such a meeting, and I never heard of such a vote.

Mr. FULTON. The Joint Chiefs never had such a meeting?

Secretary GILPATRIC. They were consulted individually through their Service Secretaries. In other words, we did not bring this up in a big meeting. We handled it separately with each Service, each Secretary and with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

Mr. FULTON. May I ask you to check, with the gentleman's permission [Mr. Anfuso], to see if there wasn't a meeting, because I think there was.

Secretary GILPATRIC. Well, you know more about it than I do, then.

The CHAIRMAN. We are going to have the Joint Chiefs up here, and you will have a chance to ask them about it.

Any further questions?

Mr. ANFUSO. No further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Any questions here?

Mr. CORMAN. After the other gentlemen, I have one.

The CHAIRMAN. I am alternating side by side, so it will be fair.

Mr. Karth.

Mr. KARTH. I understand you and Secretary McNamara have been the two prime moving objects, if you will, in the issuance of this directive.

Secretary GILPATRIC. It was our responsibility to make it.

Mr. KARTH. Inasmuch as you were, I assume you had not one or two or three reasons, but possibly a great many reasons for doing this?