

don't think this would have changed and in the area where the Polaris functions, underwater launching of a ballistic missile—that is clearly an area where the Navy's competence deserves consideration.

Mr. CORMAN. The total program then probably would have been carried out by assignment from the Secretary of Defense to the Navy?

Secretary GILPATRIC. We see no reason to change that.

Mr. CORMAN. I realize you are not going to change the past program, but assuming you had a similar circumstance today, that is the kind of thing that would be assigned to a Service other than the—

Secretary GILPATRIC. Yes.

Mr. CORMAN. Thank you, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, may I ask you something about this booster program? Originally we contemplated writing into the Act regarding NASA that NASA would have the authority to develop a booster, or a launcher.

Dr. Sheldon, is that in the authority?

Dr. SHELDON. Not that specifically, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Originally we had language in there that would have done that. Perhaps we changed it later on, but under the concept of the Wiesner Report that the booster program would be a national program, how do you fit that into your statements there on page three in your reference to it? Will it be a NASA program, will it be a Defense program? How will it be handled?

Secretary GILPATRIC. Some of the boosters used now in our vehicle program are developed by the Air Force. Some are being developed by NASA. We have agreement between us—one of the agreements I will furnish for the record—in which we specifically approve a joint program—I have a copy of it right here. It is a classified document but it is the National Launch Vehicle Summary, and we have complete accord between NASA and ourselves on all launch vehicles and we also agree if we are going to start any more we will consult each other first.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it a national booster program? Do you follow the Wiesner concept on that?

Secretary GILPATRIC. Well, I don't know whether this meets all of Dr. Wiesner's points, but we have a national launch vehicle program now; agreed upon.

The CHAIRMAN. Your program now is to divide it between yourself and NASA on a basis of what you agree on?

Secretary GILPATRIC. And making the best use of the reserves we have. We don't want to spend money on programs that will parallel each other.

The CHAIRMAN. Our thought—and I get it from others too—is, to overtake Russia we must get busy and develop a booster that will be more or less a work horse, that we can depend upon it for heavy payloads to carry aloft. Is that your concept?

It might be used by the military or it might be used by the civilian?

Secretary GILPATRIC. Well, that is what is happening today.

Many of the shots being put up by NASA are on military boosters. The Titan, for example, will be one of our standard launch vehicles for years to come until Saturn and Nova and the others come along.

The CHAIRMAN. When you come to the concept of the national booster program as I understood it, we were going to get behind one