

If Admiral Rickover hadn't been a stout-hearted guy and a dedicated man, he would have been pushed aside long ago and we would still be floundering for the Polaris.

The CHAIRMAN. And the nuclear submarine.

Mr. MILLER. The nuclear submarine and the things that go with it.

And in all this same period the Air Force hasn't given us one—is just emerging while this thing is on the books and is tried out. And I hope we never lose sight of the fact that inter-Service rivalry is good.

Now, you heard the question that I asked the previous gentleman on the stand, Mr. Gilpatric. We are concerned primarily with research and development in this committee. Do you believe that this order, as far as research and development is concerned, is not going to have a dampening effect upon the scientists and the young officers, the young men that we have to look to for the next generation in the Army and the Navy?

Secretary HITCH. I certainly hope it will not, and I think it can be operated in a way in which it will not.

Mr. MILLER. When you say you hope it will not, you imply it may do that.

Secretary HITCH. Yes, sir, there is a danger in almost any course that you take.

Mr. MILLER. When I spoke of some ivory towers in the Pentagon a few moments ago, I should have said most of these ivory towers are found in the Air Force.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Fulton, have you any questions?

Mr. FULTON. We are glad to have you here. With your having been absent, of course it brings up the question, what consideration did your office give to this proposed directive, because it has such far-reaching implications in the Department of Defense?

Was full discussion and agreement reached so that you are prepared to say that this from a budgetary point of view is good?

Secretary HITCH. No, I would say, sir, that we had no objections to it from a budgetary point of view. The budgetary implications are implications that are going to cause us no trouble. We can handle these within the framework of the budgetary and accounting system.

Mr. FULTON. You don't think ARPA as now set up is really a duplicating agency with the Air Force because they by statute have been given a broad responsibility for research and development overall in the Department of Defense? Had you considered that?

Secretary HITCH. They under present directives have responsibility for basic research in this area. But as soon as a project is ready for systems development—as I understand it—in the past, it has been assigned to one of the Services.

Under this directive it will, except in unusual circumstances, be assigned to the Air Force. That is the change this directive makes.

Mr. FULTON. From your point of view on this statement, the effect of the directive is simply to have everything channeled to the Air Force where previously the Secretary of Defense was assigning to various departments and Services as the particular situation came up, was he not?

Secretary HITCH. Yes, sir. As far as the assignment of systems responsibility is concerned, that, as I understand it, is the effect of this directive.