

Mr. FULTON. You have heard the quote: "Would that mine enemy had written a book"?

Secretary HITCH. Yes, sir, I have used it.

Mr. KARTH. Mr. Hitch, I want you to know I have a perfectly open mind on this thing. I have felt for some time that something had to be done to bring better order out of something of a chaotic condition.

Now, whether this is right or not, I don't know, but this I am sure it is the desire of the committee to find out.

It is obvious to me that there are two reasons, at least, and I am sure many more, for this kind of a directive, (1) economy, and (2) efficiency.

Inasmuch as you are the Comptroller and also are interested in this, and inasmuch as you just said a moment ago that your office is primarily responsible for whatever important fiscal possibilities may be attached to this or that directive, then your office must have had some idea when they approved it of certain efficiencies or economies that this directive may effectuate.

Now, could you list those efficiencies or economies that were brought to light which caused your office to approve this directive?

Secretary HITCH. Well, the efficiencies and economies that one hopes to achieve by this order are the elimination or reduction of unnecessary and undesirable duplication of research and development activities.

Mr. KARTH. This is rather broad and general. Were there not any specific efficiencies and economies pointed out to your office that could come about as a result of this directive?

Secretary HITCH. Not to the best of my knowledge. Of course, this, as has been pointed out by Secretary Gilpatric, applies to the assignment of future research and development projects as they come up. It does not affect past assignments.

Mr. KARTH. No, but there are certain research and development works that are going on now in the various branches of the Service that this directive will, I suppose, affect.

I said research and development.

Were any of those specifically pointed out? Were any areas specifically pointed out to your office where the Defense Department was able to say to you that, "Here and here we will be able to eliminate duplications so that economies and efficiencies will come about as a result of the directive."?

Secretary HITCH. Well, sir, I have in my budget office people thoroughly familiar with the research and development programs, and I am sure that they were consulted, that they knew of such cases. I know their advice was taken into account.

Mr. KARTH. Will you then find out and submit for the record, those things that were pointed out to your staff that may very well result in efficiency and economies?

Secretary HITCH. I didn't say pointed out to my staff but by my staff.

To the best of my knowledge, nothing was pointed out to my staff.

Mr. KARTH. Let's have those things then pointed out by your staff.

Secretary HITCH. I will make inquiry about that.