

(b) By limiting the latitude of the military departments to increase emphasis and funding for various projects it is less likely that competitive projects can get far enough along to be difficult to stop if such a determination is made by the Secretary of Defense.

(c) By assigning general responsibility for "space" projects to the Air Force, the department which will be primarily responsible for the development of "space" projects is then generally known in advance and there will be less incentive to initiate new or competitive projects in the expectancy of being able to induce assignment of continuing responsibility by virtue of a project in being.

(d) By achieving development of a Department of Defense "space" program (rather than independent "space" programs for each of the military departments) approved by the Secretary of Defense and under continual surveillance by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, which gives every promise of resulting in a better integrated program without unnecessary or undesirable competition.

(e) By encouraging vital scientific and technological competition which would be controlled to exclude unnecessary and costly development competitions. For example, it does not seem to be reasonable or economical to have two or three independent competing space surveillance systems, or two or three competing satellite communication systems, or two or three or four weather satellite systems, or many independent competing projects to develop major components for such systems.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Ryan.

Mr. RYAN. In your opinion, do you believe that the effect of this directive, that one of its defects will be to diminish the interests of the Army and Navy in research?

Secretary HITCH. Yes. I think that is going to be true to some extent in this particular area of research—not in research generally but this particular area of research.

There are a great many areas of research where we are very anxious to get more work done by the Army and the Navy, but I think it is inevitable that this will diminish the interests of the Army and the Navy in space research.

Mr. RYAN. And do you think that that effect will have an overall effect on our space program?

In other words, do you think your statement now is inconsistent with that expressed in the book quoted?

Secretary HITCH. Let me say in making a decision of this kind, we can't think only of the effect on the space program.

We also have responsibilities for research in other areas. We have to take into consideration the fact that we need to stimulate research in some of the other areas where the Army and the Navy have primary concern.

I hope that it won't have a deleterious effect on the space program, but we do want to get more research done, for example, on weaponry associated with limited warfare and research associated with anti-submarine warfare. There are things we have to think about as well as the effect on space.

Mr. RYAN. The result really will be to place space research in the hands of the Air Force?

Secretary HITCH. Not all of it, but I think the effect will be to reduce somewhat the amount of space research in the other Services and their interest in space research.

The CHAIRMAN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. RYAN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. By the same token, it would serve to intensify research and development in the Air Force.