

Secretary HITCH. It certainly should and the Air Force as you know, just announced a reorganization that promotes space and will lead to an intensification.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you think will be the effect of the announced reorganization in the Air Force? Will it speed it up, do you think?

Secretary HITCH. This has only reached me this morning, sir. Upon reading it over, it looks very good to me.

The CHAIRMAN. Now generally speaking, do you feel that the organizational setup for space in the Department of Defense is going to redound to the accelerated program of space over there?

Secretary HITCH. Yes, sir, I think it will.

The CHAIRMAN. Economically—now you are Comptroller, there, and you have a terrific responsibility, spending \$42 billion, which is a lot of money, do you feel that the present setup insofar as you have studied it—now I understand you haven't studied it very carefully—do you feel that it will be economical and will not lead to a waste of funds?

Secretary HITCH. Well, I will do my best to make it so, sir. I am new to this job.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Randall.

Mr. RANDALL. I wondered for a long while why you were considered such an important witness and I want to observe that I had not at that time read your biography.

I understand you were born in Booneville, Mo., and went to Kemper Military Institute. Now, I understand.

The CHAIRMAN. The Secretary has at least one supporter on the committee.

Mr. Fulton?

Mr. FULTON. I would estimate 91 percent of space expenditures are going through the Air Force currently.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean military space?

Secretary HITCH. Military space.

Mr. FULTON. Just the Department of Defense, yes.

The question then comes up under the new directive with the special emphasis on the Air Force and likewise decreased emphasis on research and development in the Army and the Navy in space, what budgetary percentage would then go through the Air Force except in these unusual circumstances?

Secretary HITCH. I don't know, sir.

Mr. FULTON. What is the percentage going up to?

Secretary HITCH. I do not know and I will not be responsible for the assignment of these development projects to one Service or another. That is the responsibility of the Secretary.

Mr. FULTON. Your job, of course, is on such a directive, and that of your office, to evaluate what the budgetary change is. That is why I have given you the figure of 91 percent and then asked in this change of emphasis, what will that figure go up to?

I said to the previous witness, will it be 96, 98 percent to the Air Force?

Secretary HITCH. I do not know, sir. This would involve predicting what future decisions the Secretary of Defense is going to make and I am not in a position to do that.