

Answer: In the over-all R.D.T. & E. field, the military departments cannot pursue major hardware, research development, test and evaluation programs without specific approval of the Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (O.D.D.R. & E.). However, study efforts and laboratory experiments can be conducted within broad technical areas without specific approval by O.D.D.R. & E. of each detail or element within that broad technical area up to \$2.0 million annual budgetary level unless the Service specifically identifies the project under a budgetary line item. The new DOD Space Directive, and the Instruction thereto, is more controlling. Nevertheless, the Services will still have latitude for the exercise of individual initiative, the generation of new ideas and concepts, the evaluations and analyses of new ideas and concepts as well as laboratory feasibility tests. It should be noted that in support of the new Space Directive, a DOD Instruction is about to be issued which will define preliminary research and specify the level of effort which must be approved by the D.D.R. & E. All space programs beyond the preliminary research stage must be approved by the Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Examples of preliminary research pertinent to the question involved active and passive communications satellites, mobile launch vehicles, and tactical satellite applications, based upon mobile launch techniques. Speeches and press releases relating to these efforts have resulted in erroneous impressions that certain of these preliminary research efforts were approved major development programs. In some cases this resulted in an inappropriate level of industry-sponsored activity, and also created some embarrassment in dealings with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on the basis that it appeared as though the Department of Defense (DOD) was not keeping faith with explicit written agreements between the two agencies.

Question 3. In the past the practice has been to carry on most research and development in the Service which plans to use devices operationally on the grounds that the user can better make known his operational requirements. If assignment of space development work to the Air Force does not commit operational use to the Air Force, what steps will be taken to insure adequate reflection of Army and Navy operational needs in detail?

Answer: In the past, it has, indeed, been the practice to carry on most research and development in the Service which plans to use the devices. It is still the practice in those cases in which only one Service has a unique requirement operationally. However, a review of the various Service requirements would indicate a tri-Service interest in all current major space programs as well as those under discussion.

It is the policy of the DOD to make use of unique technical capabilities within the DOD wherever they exist. In the interest of effective management and economy, however, future space system developments aimed at meeting common requirements will be integrated to avoid the emergence of multiple large management organizations. This does not preclude continued use of technical capabilities and competency existing throughout the DOD.

Question 4. Did Mr. Gilpatric receive comprehensive briefings by the Army and the Navy on their respective space capabilities and future requirements prior to the drafting of the directive of March 6?

Answer: If by "comprehensive briefings" is meant formal oral presentation of the Army and Navy positions with respect to the effect of the proposed space and research and development directive upon their respective capabilities and future requirements, then neither Mr. McNamara nor Mr. Gilpatric received "comprehensive briefings." Neither regarded such briefings as necessary in arriving at his decision. For almost two months both had spent a great deal of time studying and being briefed in almost every aspect of the Department of Defense, including space matters. Each Service had fully presented its position on the proposed directive in writing and the written comments and supporting data were carefully studied by both Mr. McNamara and Mr. Gilpatric. In addition, Secretary McNamara discussed the matter with the Secretary of the Navy; and Mr. Gilpatric discussed the matter fully with the Secretary of the Army and other Army representatives.

As a matter of general practice it is the intention of both Mr. McNamara and Mr. Gilpatric to dispense with formal oral presentations on matters submitted for decision. Secretary McNamara has directed that all proposals for decision shall be submitted in written form sufficiently detailed so as to permit action without oral briefings. In such cases, oral presentation will be used only to clarify and to explain technical details when requested.