

Mr. MILLER. The Congress has an interest and while this weapon is not in production yet, improvements can be made in it and there is research and development that can be done and I believe it is the interest of this committee and the committee has a right to inquire into it and find out if roadblocks have been placed in its way. There have been roadblocks placed in its way. I am not charging that to the Air Force. I do not think that the General realizes—that we all realize that the first one that has an adequate defense against missilery is one up on the other fellow.

General WHITE. I couldn't agree with you more. The Air Force feels that a useful, effective defense against the missile is one of our crying needs in the missile field and I will go further and say the Air Force hasn't the slightest design on Nike-Zeus.

Mr. MILLER. General, you confirm the high respect in which I hold you.

General WHITE. My answers are really nothing new, Mr. Miller. This just happens to be the first time these questions have ever been put in this way.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL. I want first of all to say that I certainly welcome this change. I think it is a very good directive and I favor the idea of it.

I would like to ask you, though, a little bit more specifically—I appreciate, as you say, that Nike-Zeus is an Army program and the Polaris a Navy one.

I would like to get an idea from you, just approximately where you think the divisions in outer space would be.

For example, in antimissile warfare, another type of invention or another type of research in this direction, a protection against missile warfare, would you think this would be an Army project, or a project of the Air Force, or just where is the division, in your opinion, according to this directive?

General WHITE. That is a very good question, if I may say so, and I hope I can formulate a good answer to it. I can only give you my own reflections.

One has to look back over the history of things. This move into space is, in our thesis, an extension of the atmosphere. There is no dividing line.

Now, the Army has historically had the antiaircraft artillery role. The Air Force has had the fighter-interceptor role. Now, we come to the missile age. I would say that all of those weapon systems which are analogous to antiaircraft artillery are properly the Army's.

I would say all those weapons systems which are analogous to the fighter-interceptor are for the Air Force to develop and in this case, to operate because the Air Defense Command is the only one that uses that type fighter interceptor in the continental defense.

So, Nike-Zeus clearly falls in the role of a successor in the evolution of antiaircraft artillery—I am trying to reduce this to terms that I, myself, can see clearly and make it clear to others.

If there were an area defense against ballistic missiles, it could be Army or it could be Air Force, but an area defense corresponds much more closely to the fighter-interceptor role than it does to the artillery role.