

Mr. HECHLER. Mr. Secretary, you spoke, and quite properly, of protecting the competence in the communications field that the Army possessed. I wonder if you could tell us a little more specifically what is being done to coordinate your project Advent with the NASA project Relay?

Secretary STAHR. I do not know enough about that to give you a reply that would be worth the time of the committee to hear, Mr. Hechler. There is a Coordinating Board of some kind, the details of which I am not thoroughly familiar with.

Mr. HECHLER. Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Daddario.

Mr. DADDARIO. Mr. Secretary, what part, if any, did the possibility of use of space for military purposes by an aggressor nation have to play in bringing about this directive?

Secretary STAHR. I couldn't say.

Mr. DADDARIO. Well, then, getting back to what Mr. Teague has asked you, are you satisfied, looking at this directive, now, from the point of view of it having been issued, and the arguments which you posed before it was brought about to defend the Army position, are you satisfied that there are more pluses than there are minuses from the standpoint of the Department of Defense having the capability now to meet its mission, insofar as the national security of this country is concerned?

Secretary STAHR. I can say that I certainly hope so. That as far as the Army is concerned, we intend to see that that is so.

I believe that the real answer to that question could not be given for, let's say, another two or three years, and will depend upon how this directive is carried out.

This directive can be made to work badly; it can be made to work well. I don't feel competent to speculate beyond saying that we intend to see it works well.

Mr. DADDARIO. Although I am in favor of the general idea of this directive, I think it would be better to bring together the skills and talents which this country has, but I am concerned about your testimony and the testimony of others, that something was given up, that there is as a result of this directive, a weakness in the Army, or in the Navy and I cannot understand at the moment, and there has not been any testimony given, that the strength that we gain more than compensates for the things that we have given up.

Secretary STAHR. Well, I thought Mr. Gilpatric's testimony, which was on that point of what are the justifications for this, covered it better than I could, anyway.

Mr. DADDARIO. Well, I think, Mr. Secretary, that Mr. Gilpatric's statement was in a general sense strongly in support of his position and I think it did a proper job, but I do think as the testimony unfolds itself from there, the specifics must be answered.

The specifics in this case have not been. I am concerned now about these weaknesses. I think we should learn what are the weaknesses, what have we given up, and what have we gained.

I think it ought to be spelled out if it can be. If it cannot be, then this concern will linger in my mind and I wonder if we can wait for the two or three years for it to be proven that this directive is a correct one.