

A Gold Star in lieu of the Second Bronze Star Medal was awarded, but rescinded in favor of the Legion of Merit, with Combat "V", citation to which follows, in part: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct . . . as Force Fighter Director Officer on board the USS *Essex*, Flagship of Task Force 38, from July 7, 1944, to June 26, 1945; and later as Task Group Fighter Director on the staff of Commander Fast Carrier Task Group 38.1, with flag in the USS *Bennington* during operations against enemy Japanese forces at sea and against the Japanese mainland from June 26 to August 28, 1945. An officer of resourcefulness, mature judgment and clarity of mind, Lieutenant Connally effected notable improvements in Fighter Director and CIC policy and doctrine. His practical application of these doctrines together with his thorough knowledge of aerial tactics made possible the utilization of the air power available to cause maximum destruction of Japanese planes threatening our forces and to afford the greatest protection for elements of the Carrier Task Group . . . By this distinctive service in this vital phase of operations, (he) made a substantial contribution to the success of our offensives in the major campaigns conducted during this period, thereby upholding the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service."

Detached from the *Essex* in November 1945, he was relieved of all active duty at the Officer Personnel Separation Center, Washington, D.C., on January 3, 1946. He remained a member of the Naval Reserve (inactive) until 1954.

In addition to the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal, each with Combat "V", former Lieutenant Commander Connally has the American Defense Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one operation star, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one silver and two bronze stars (seven operations), the World War II Victory Medal, and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with two stars.

Mr. Connally is married to Idanell Brill of Austin who in 1938 was the "University of Texas Sweetheart." They have three children: John B. III, 14; Sharon, 11; and Mark, 8.

1 FEBRUARY 1961.

The CHAIRMAN. We would be happy to hear from you, sir.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JOHN B. CONNALLY, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Secretary CONNALLY. Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I am honored to be here today. I am honored to be here today to appear before this committee and to give you the Navy's position on its role in space and on the recent directive concerning space, issued by the Secretary of Defense.

As I am sure you know, the Navy has always had a major contribution to make to this country's efforts in space and I am sure will always in the future be able to contribute. We have an inhouse research capability that is, in my opinion, the best in the world. We have had experience in the launching of space vehicles and in the construction and operation of the payloads which these vehicles bear. We will be ready to contribute all of these talents to our Nation's space program.

During the past few weeks, I have had an opportunity to make known to the Secretary of Defense some of our abilities in the field of space and our position on the type of organization which we feel could best use our talents as well as those of the other military departments and civilian organizations. I have had an opportunity to study the present directive and to make known my views on it.

My views, insofar as the Navy is concerned, were not in complete accord with the directive as it was finally issued. Prior to issuance of the directive, I voiced my own opinions and my recommendations as to the type of program the country should have.