

Secretary CONNALLY. Mr. Chairman, I do not think they will be wasted. I am sincere in that. I cannot conceive any person in a responsible position of authority in this Government who would not find some means and make a conscious effort to do so in view of the imagination, the brains and initiative that the Navy research scientists have.

The CHAIRMAN. But it was the uneasiness in your feeling that caused you to go to the Secretary of Defense to present that problem, was it not?

Secretary CONNALLY. Well, of course, the consideration of any such a directive as this raises fears that may or may not be well founded, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. That is right.

Secretary CONNALLY. Therefore, in fairness to the people who have dedicated their lives to scientific endeavors I think I would be less than intelligent and less than responsible if I did not consider the effect that such an action might have on their state of mind which, as you well know, is important, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I am just trying to put myself in the Navy attitude there in reference to the mater. Now, you presented the matter to the Secretary and you were reassured that the Navy abilities in science and research and development would be used in the future. Isn't that correct?

Secretary CONNALLY. Yes, I am convinced that is true, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And before this order came out, did the Navy have an opportunity to present its case to the Defense Department?

Secretary CONNALLY. Yes, it did.

The CHAIRMAN. And it did present it.

Secretary CONNALLY. Yes, it did.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, the case of the Navy which was presented was not entirely in line with the order that subsequently was issued, was it?

Secretary CONNALLY. That is correct, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Wherein did it differ?

Secretary CONNALLY. Well, basically, our approach, as I said in my prepared statement—our position differed from the directive as it was finally issued. Our position basically was that the various programs of the Defense Department should be, as they have in the past, assigned only on a program basis more or less.

Our objectives and observations that I gave to the Defense Department raised the question that space in itself is not a program, it is a medium, it is not an end in itself, it is not an objective in itself.

The CHAIRMAN. It is like the ocean.

Secretary CONNALLY. That is correct, sir.

And that again our principal observations and recommendations centered around the continued use of the abilities which we had to be sure that there was not created an environment or an organizational setup which would preclude the use being made of the brains that we had available to us.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, you are satisfied, are you, Mr. Secretary, that nothing in this order will disturb the development of the Polaris program, are you?

Secretary CONNALLY. I am as sure of that as that I am sitting here, sir.