

Secretary CONNALLY. Not in my concept of it, no, sir. As I tried to say a moment ago, we have under this directive the authority, and we certainly intend to exercise the responsibility, of continuing our preliminary basic research all across the broad spectrum.

Now, when it gets beyond that point, when it gets in the development stage under this directive as we do now, we will have to go to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for approval to continue any particular program, but that is unchanged from what exists today. So that we certainly anticipate, within the broad realm of preliminary basic research, that we are going right ahead with it, sir.

Mr. ANFUSO. Have you found any reasons to object? If you saw that you could not do the things that you wanted to do, you would be the first to object?

Secretary CONNALLY. Yes.

Mr. ANFUSO. I have the greatest admiration for the Air Force. There is not any question we have the best Air Force in the world—we have the best Navy. Now, the directive here is going to be under the control of the Secretary of the Air Force to a great extent. Suppose some people in that department do not agree with your statement that you have the best inhouse facilities for research and all that, what is going to happen then? Suppose they say they have the best inhouse facilities for research and they restrict you to certain fields—what then?

Secretary CONNALLY. I do not think they have the authority now or under the directive to restrict us to certain fields, Congressman.

I think there is not any question under the directive but that in the preliminary basic research we have the freedom to delve into any problems that we think we are required to do in performing the naval missions. There are perhaps those in the Air Force who feel today that they have better inhouse capability than we do. My attitude is we can certainly disagree without being disagreeable and I do not want to debate the matter with them. If they feel that way, I am proud of them.

I think one of the great things that make the Services what they are is the spirit inherent in those Services. If a man did not have that, I do not know how he could make any great contribution to a military Service in this country. If he did not believe he was serving in the best outfit, whether it is a platoon, a company, a battalion, a regiment or a division or ship, then we would deteriorate.

Mr. ANFUSO. I like that statement very much.

Secretary CONNALLY. And that is the thing I was getting at a moment ago. One of the basic, inherent things in maintaining a fighting force is that you have to instill these people with a concept of what they are fighting for and you have to make them believe that they are a part of the greatest outfit in the world, and parenthetically I might say here, I think that is very simply the answer to why the Marine Corps is the magnificent organization that it is, because they do have an esprit de corps second to none. Possibly, if I may inject a note of levity at this point, possibly with the exception of Texas A. & M. College of which your colleague is an alumnus—

Mr. ANFUSO. No comments.

Mr. TEAGUE. I will forgive you since you are in the Navy.

Secretary CONNALLY. But to complete my statement, when you deal with any military establishment, and that is what we are deal-