

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Weis.

Mrs. WEIS. Mr. Chairman and Mr. Secretary, I think, to follow up the "unusual circumstance" aspect of the whole directive, we got a very impressive answer from you.

You say you feel that anything—and the Admiral backs it up—that anything that pertains to your medium you would get. If the Army feels the same way, that anything pertaining to development in their medium they would get, and as I understand from Mr. Fulton, there is no air in space, which leaves the Air Force out entirely, would not this become an exercise in futility, this whole directive, if everything that comes up turns out to be an "unusual circumstance"?

Secretary CONNALLY. If everything that comes up is deemed to be an "unusual circumstance", I suppose that would normally follow.

I certainly don't think it will be the case.

Mrs. WEIS. Don't you think in the laboratories and the Services, themselves, they might so construe it, if they got a breakthrough on something intimately connected with the Service; they would think it was an "unusual circumstance", and did everything they could to get that interpretation of it?

Secretary CONNALLY. I suppose there would be that interpretation made.

As you well know, there is a very long and tenuous road from an idea in a research lab to funding by the Congress. Any program has to be sifted and sifted; and as I see it, it proceeds along a rather tortuous route, so that even though a scientist in a laboratory might say, "This certainly is an unusual circumstance," others might disagree.

Mrs. WEIS. So there is still no definite definition put on it that you can go by?

Secretary CONNALLY. No, ma'am, there has not been.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Karth.

Mr. KARTH. I had the opportunity of serving with the military, and you know, on certain days the top sergeant to the first lieutenant, just to keep our bodies busy, would issue an order, to just keep us occupied and forget about those things we might be interested in back home.

I have a feeling, however, the Secretary of Defense does not issue orders for this purpose.

For 3 days I have been unable to find out what the purposes may have been or what the consequences of the order might be.

After I heard your testimony today, I am in about the same position as I have been in the last 2 days of these hearings.

I would like to ask you if there is any effect, then, other than the effect of the order having been issued, that you see this order having on research as conducted by the Navy, except that you now must go to the Secretary of Defense to whom you probably had to go before, to get approval of certain aspects of your research and development program.

I have a feeling that there is a purpose for the order. This is my point. I have a feeling, too, that I have not yet found out what the purpose may be.

Could you, as precisely as you can, give me the benefit of your thinking as to what effect, adversely or otherwise, this directive or