

secondly, that it is actually only a presumption at this point by this directive?

Secretary CONNALLY. Well, I think it does elevate the exceptions to be made to the order of the level of the Secretary of Defense. Unquestionably, it does that. As a practical matter, as you well know, they have had basically this type of control, both in Dr. York's office and the Secretary, through the funding concepts, anyway.

Mr. FULTON. So really it is almost just a rule of thumb that has been set by this directive and a very tenuous rule of thumb, because I understand that the Secretary of Defense has further assured you that the Navy would be given an opportunity to continue working on space programs on which they are interested, and if this directive did not result in the requirements of the Navy being met, that under the directive exceptions would be made in order that the Navy, itself, might pursue these activities.

That is the first change in position the Secretary of Defense has made since this directive has been issued.

I might add that this is the first hole shot in the pie, by the man who made it—

Or even if necessary, the directive might be altered to assure that the Navy keeps the abilities and capabilities to perform its naval missions. As you all know, there are many elements of space with which we are vitally concerned.

That has two things. That has, first, that there will be amendments which the Secretary of Defense has already promised to his directive, issued with exceptions, and likewise, he says that the Navy keep the abilities and capabilities to perform its naval missions, and of course it is inferred, in space.

Now, that is not only research and development but basic research and development, applied research and development, test the engineering and commissioned performance, so if that is an accurate quote of the Secretary, he certainly has left a very fine lacework of a directive in his own hands.

Secretary CONNALLY. Let me say this, Congressman:

The words you are reading are my words. They are not his words. They are not intended to be a quote of his words, whatsoever.

I think what he said to me was entirely consistent with his directive.

Mr. FULTON. But didn't he give you the feeling if necessary, the directive might be amended?

Secretary CONNALLY. If necessary.

Mr. FULTON. That is right.

Secretary CONNALLY. If necessary.

Mr. FULTON. When a man sets a very stern rule and then says first, "I will make exceptions, and if the exceptions don't go far enough, I will then amend the whole directive," he has not left much of a directive for himself.

Secretary CONNALLY. I think, sir, that we are perhaps taking my words out of context with the directive.

The directive anticipates that there might be changes in the future, depending upon what the future brings, because he leaves several outs in dealing with unusual circumstances, and my language which I used in my direct statement this morning should be construed in the light of the directive and in the light of the words "unusual circumstances." I don't think and I do not intend to convey the idea—