STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES H. WAKELIN, JR., ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Secretary WAKELIN. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I should just like to brief what I submitted to you as a statement and to say that we have a long history of success in the area of space and space vehicles, and in the field of navigation, communications, study of the upper atmosphere, probes and high altitude balloon studies.

These have not only contributed to our mission as a navy but formed a background for the scientific achievements of other people who we hope are interested in space.

We believe our role in the national effort is to make our laboratories and our scientists available for work in both research and development in the whole field of space technology, where they are qualified. We have excellent laboratories, one of which, the Naval Research Laboratory, has done outstanding work in upper atmosphere physics, in communications, and the Moon relay problem, and has recently been able to study the upper atmosphere by a pickaback to Transit.

We have the Applied Physics Laboratory, whose work in the development of the Transit pay load has been an historic development, having been done so inexpensively in such a short time.

We have the Naval Ordnance Test Station at China Lake, Calif., which has contributed a great deal of work.

We have supported Project Mercury for NASA through our work in the Naval Air Development Center at Johnsville, Pa., where we have human centrifuge equipment to which the astronauts have been subjected in physiological studies. We have also a school of Aviation Medicine at Pensacola, which we believe is a most important activity to further studies of humans in the space flight problem.

This is all I wish to say in furtherance of my statement, except to emphasize again what Secretary Connally has said, and that is our scientific effort in the Navy has not been changed one bit. We have informed the people in the laboratories and bureaus that there will be no substantial change at all in our scientific effort in this field and that we don't believe that the things we are doing now, at the Pacific Missile Range and the Space Surveillance System, are going to be substantially changed at all by this directive.

(The committee was provided with this checklist of Navy inhouse facilities useful for space research:)

NAVY INHOUSE FACILITIES

Naval Research Laboratory—Vanguard, Greb, Lofti, Mini-track, Spasur, Orbiter (Explorer), Upper atmospheric research
Special project group—Polaris missile
Nuclear propulsion group—Nuclear reactors for propulsion
Pacific Missile Range—Important segment of astronautic ground environment
Naval Ordnance Test Station—Caleb, Sidewinder
Naval Missile & Astronautic Center—Hydra
Various launch ships—Argus, Polaris tests, sea recovery
Naval Aero-medical Facilities—
- Aviation Medical Acceleration Lab—centrifuge
- Air Crew Equipment Lab—closed ecological systems—pressure suits
- Naval School of Aviation Medicine—disorientation study
- Naval Medical Research Institute—heat, vibration, CO_2, tolerance
- Naval Parachute Unit—escape systems
- Naval Medical Research Lab—atmospheric control

Shipyards—launching and handling capability for large metallic shapes