

project we have followed the policy of telling just as much to the American people as possible. We do not give them detailed drawings of the capsules so they can go off and design and build one. This is true throughout the NASA program.

Now we do scrutinize this matter of classification internally very carefully. The recommendations for classification originate at the project and program level, but we do have review boards. We do have boards which set up policy guides within specific projects interpreting broad policy.

And as far as our classified publications are concerned, we have the policy of periodic review and declassification. In fact, one of the most effective programs I think along that line in the Government is this program. So I am not concerned about the parts of information that NASA itself classifies.

I think again this committee has been very helpful from time to time. You discover cases where you think we are wrong. We appreciate your bringing them to our attention. We try to do something about them.

But the intent of my testimony is simply to say that we are not free under this language to pass along information which Defense has classified or which the intelligence agency has classified, and that is the only intent. I believe in the fullest disclosure to the American people as possible.

Mr. HARDY. I certainly completely understand the necessity for classification of intelligence data and security information.

Dr. DRYDEN. Yes.

Mr. HARDY. But what I am concerned about right now more than the question of releasing information is whether or not the agency itself is carrying out its responsibilities under the act.

Dr. DRYDEN. We are supposed to make the United States the leader, to operate our own programs.

Mr. HARDY. And if you don't know what the Russians are doing you can't do that, can you?

Dr. DRYDEN. That is correct, and we get that information which does guide us in our programs.

Mr. HARDY. But you don't get any of it on your own initiative.

Dr. DRYDEN. That is correct.

Mr. HARDY. You just have to get somebody else to tell you about it.

Dr. DRYDEN. This is correct.

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That * * * area * * * is assigned to other agencies of the Government. The results of the information we get. It guides us in our own programs.

Mr. HARDY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MOSS. Mr. Meader.

Mr. MEADER. Dr. Dryden, you referred to this exchange of correspondence.

Dr. DRYDEN. Yes.

LETTER REGARDING SOVIET FAILURES EXPLAINED

Mr. MEADER. Between the chairman of the two Space Committees of the Congress and the Administrator of NASA, the letter of September 4 and the letter of September 5, 1962. I was puzzled when