

Dr. DRYDEN. I don't know whether I can answer your question thoroughly. I should say we do have a USIA man working intimately with us. We do provide information for USIA to issue to foreign countries. This aspect is certainly one which is involved in representing the U.S. position abroad.

I don't know exactly whether I can put my hands on specific pieces of paper which cover the sort of thing which you would like to see done. I am under the impression that there are stories on the average of once a month attempting to put this in context.

Now the second best has always been based on this weight-lifting capacity, which NASA set out to remedy just as soon as it was formed in October of 1958. It has taken from October of 1958 until today for Wernher von Braun to bring the Saturn vehicle to operational stage. It is expected to launch a satellite in the order of 20,000 pounds this year.

If the Russians have not launched something heavier than 14,000 pounds by that date, then for a brief moment anyway the United States is higher in the weight-lifting capacity.

It is recognized, I think, throughout the world that the scientific explorations of NASA greatly exceed those of the Russians. This is demonstrated in every forum, every international forum, such as the one now going on in Warsaw where there are repeated expressions to this country thanking us for cooperation. They get up and talk about relationships. There is no cooperation with the Russians, with anyone.

In the area of weather communications, it is recognized that the Russians have done nothing. So this matter of the exact relative position too often is hung solely on this question of weight-lifting capacity, which we think will soon be remedied.

Mr. REID. Might I merely ask you this, and then yield back, Mr. Chairman.

Would it be possible for you and Mr. Webb, after consultation with the President, to appear again before this committee to advise us as to the responsibilities of NASA in this regard, to the extent that NASA feels that it should not assume them, to indicate clearly who in the Government will assume this, to inform the Congress and the American people, and to inform through our information services the rest of the world, on the Soviet space failures?

To put it in clear perspective, because I submit that I do not think that it is now in perspective. Either NASA must assume this responsibility or the President should direct someone else so to do, so that the responsibility will be assumed by the administration.

I do not think the record here today, or Dr. Simpson's testimony, has been responsive to the central point of the American people and the rest of the world being clearly informed and adequately informed as to Soviet space failures and to an evaluation thereof.

Dr. DRYDEN. I think probably the request should go directly to the President, if you want him to take some action on the matter.

Mr. REID. You do not feel that NASA has any responsibility in this regard?

Dr. DRYDEN. I have said repeatedly we have, that we have talked to newspapermen.

We have given newspapermen information about our assessment of the relative positions, discussed all these matters in great detail, the