

weight-lifting capacity, exactly what they are doing in science and what the prospects are of the Russians doing something in meteorology, because they say they are going to. I think the problem is one of the forum that you have in mind.

Mr. REID. Do you think you are presently discharging this responsibility?

Dr. DRYDEN. I do not say that the American people or that the world understands this clearly, because this takes a massive, a very massive effort. I think the press has discussed this matter many times. I think they are continuing to discuss it.

Mr. REID. But do you think you are affirmatively discharging this responsibility?

Dr. DRYDEN. Yes.

Mr. REID. You do?

Dr. DRYDEN. Yes.

Mr. REID. And yet in your testimony I think you are quite clear as I understood it in indicating that much of this is now classified, and further that much of this is classified at the direction not of NASA but of the intelligence community. Therefore I don't see how you can be discharging it.

Dr. DRYDEN. No Government agency can have the power to ride over the CIA. I don't understand the logic of this at all.

Mr. REID. I don't quite follow your logic in assuming that CIA is necessarily correct. The President has to assume—

Dr. DRYDEN. No agency is necessarily correct, but the President assumes the responsibility for the overall operation of the Government.

Mr. REID. Yes, but you have a responsibility it seems to me to put this whole thing in perspective to the United States, the people, the Congress, the rest of the world.

Dr. DRYDEN. Which we do to the best of our ability, without getting involved in matters which we are not authorized to disclose.

Mr. REID. Yes, but you invoke automatically here in most of your responses this business of the intelligence community.

The intelligence community can be wrong. I think you have an affirmative responsibility to advise the President that this is overclassified, that the U.S. interests would be better served if some of it—

Dr. DRYDEN. I honestly don't think it is. This is the fundamental difficulty. I don't think it is overclassified.

Mr. REID. Therefore it would be helpful if we could have some further testimony on this

RESPONSIBILITY OF CLASSIFICATION

Mr. Moss. Let me say first, Mr. Reid, I find myself in very substantial agreement with the observations you have made.

I think there is danger in Government when an agency reaches the point where it says that a question is illogical.

Dr. DRYDEN. I don't think I said that.

Mr. Moss. You said you could see no logic—I just turned it around, because I think clearly it conveyed the conviction that to question CIA would be illogical.

Dr. DRYDEN. No, I did not say that.