

nuclear force which we do not consider to be proliferation, but which they charge with being such.

There is this common interest. Time is moving along and the proliferation is, therefore, perhaps proceeding. I have talked to my Soviet colleagues along the line of, let us not debate whether this allied nuclear force is not what they say it is or what we say it is, let's get an agreement worldwide on nonproliferation, and if an agreement comes into being on nuclear force and if then it seems at the time proliferation, then they would have the kind of right under the treaty to abrogate if they felt it was inimical to their national security. If we wait until all these things are answered, we meanwhile may have lost the opportunity of controlling this spread, and this I think is the greatest danger that we face at the present time.

There is this chance. We believe that the other items of Mr. Johnson's program submitted last year, with modifications, as we have studied it more fully, is susceptible of progress. And I think that the risk of war situation, observation positions, this sort of thing in which the Soviets have shown an interest in the past and in which I think we again have a common interest, these are indeed possible.

Mr. MAILLIARD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to pursue this perhaps in executive session.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Mr. O'Hara.

Mr. O'HARA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Director, your statement I thought was a pattern of restraint and modesty. You know my high regard for you and the Agency. In Illinois we think of you as one of the great men of the times and an engineer of peace. But Mr. Director, I am concerned about the growth of these contract research agencies. How many have we? Thousands?

Mr. FOSTER. At least dozens perhaps, but not thousands, I think. You mean in Government, or all through the country?

Mr. O'HARA. All through the country.

Mr. FOSTER. If you count the number of university research and other institutions, there may be a thousand.

Mr. O'HARA. Some of them are good, unquestionably, and some of them I presume are not so good. Has anybody resigned from your Agency to found a research agency?

Mr. FOSTER. Yes; I think there is at least one that I am familiar with.

Mr. O'HARA. That is, he found that the Government is doing so much in contracting with these researchers that it is more profitable to get in and found a research agency than work for the Government? That isn't good, is it?

Mr. FOSTER. I am not sure that all of them do find it that profitable, Mr. O'Hara.

Mr. O'HARA. I was heartened when I heard you say that you wanted more personnel in order that you could do more of the necessary research by direct agency operation. I appreciate there is a place for the contract research agency, especially one functioning in connection with a college or university, but I think there is a real danger of overdoing it.

Thank you, Mr. Director. It has been a joy talking to you.

Mr. FOSTER. Thank you for your kind words, Mr. O'Hara.