

Mr. FOSTER. A question as to our authority or responsibility for the closings which grow out of a change in program by the Defense Department are not our responsibility in any sense. We use certain of those closings as specific examples of the effects of closings which might be anticipated to occur through arms control and disarmament activities later and to be prepared with suggestions, recommendations to the agencies which have the responsibility for re-placing or helping displaced persons or for helping in the community to offset the economic effects of such closings.

Mr. FARBSTEIN. Don't you think you are spreading yourself a bit too thin, taking on all these obligations and functions together with your primary function? Because it would seem to me that studies in anticipation of particular closings would certainly require substantial funds.

Before the Brooklyn Navy Yard, or before Pennsylvania installations were to be closed, shouldn't you have made a study prior thereto to determine what would be the effect of the closing of these installations?

Mr. FOSTER. No, sir; these were closed by program changes, shifts in contracts, and other things over which we have no control.

Mr. FARBSTEIN. I understand that. That is not the point. I would like to know whether it is part of the function of your organization to make a study before the closing so as to know what the effect the closing has on the community or the Nation. That is the point I would like to have clarified.

Mr. FOSTER. You are asking if closings not occurring from arms reduction—

Mr. FARBSTEIN. No; I am restricting myself to Army installations and arms reduction.

Mr. FOSTER. You are restricting your question to those plants which are closed because of a disarmament agreement with the Soviet Union?

Mr. FARBSTEIN. Any disarmament. Was the Brooklyn Navy Yard closed because it was anticipated that this Navy yard was unnecessary, that we had reached some sort of a detente with the Soviet Union and things had eased up a bit enabling us to economize on what were considered to be unnecessary installations?

Mr. FOSTER. The Brooklyn Navy Yard closing is not the result of a disarmament agreement with the Soviet Union or anybody else. Therefore we have no responsibility for anticipating what the effect of that closing will be.

Our responsibility is to use that as an example of what might occur if we were to wipe out all Navy—

Mr. FARBSTEIN. Let's go to what happened in Pennsylvania. There was a closing of airplane factories; is that right?

Chairman MORGAN. They closed the Olmstead Air Force Base.

Mr. FARBSTEIN. Did you make a study as to what the effect of that closing would be on the community and Nation before the closing was ordered so that the Secretary of Defense would know what would happen?

Mr. FOSTER. No, sir; we did not.

Mr. FARBSTEIN. Why not?

Mr. FOSTER. Because we do not consider that that is a result of a disarmament arrangement worked out by the United States with