

this committee, and to participate in its hearings on the adequacy of technology for pollution abatement.

Sir, this morning I have with me in addition to my members of my DOD and Environmental Control Committee, some technical advisers who will be available to answer those questions which may come to the committee's mind which requires some technical information.

With your permission, sir, I should like to at least cite the names of these people, although time is running short. There is Captain Riblett of the U.S. Navy.

Lieutenant Colonel Taft of the Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Peterson, Office of the Surgeon General, U.S. Air Force, and Lieutenant Colonel Hippler from the Office, Deputy Chief of Staff, Research and Technology, U.S. Air Force.

Lieutenant Commander Hernandez, who is representing the Surgeon General of the Navy.

Major Shaw of the Surgeon General's office of the Army.

Mr. Kinney of the Department of the Navy, and Captain Chapman of the Surgeon General's Office, U.S. Air Force.

These gentlemen are here, sir, not only to answer any questions which the committee might have which I feel would be better answered by technical experts, but also to somewhat serve as an evidence that the Department of Defense has a deep and abiding interest in this study.

We have studied with much interest the report of the Research Management Advisory Panel on this subject. As you know, we have provided the committee with a résumé of our observations on the "issues" enunciated in the Advisory Panel's report. That summary discusses those issues about which we have views as results of our experiences, and those on which, because of their implications to the military departments and agencies, we feel that our observations may be of value.

It does seem appropriate, as a point of departure in this discussion, to emphasize that the military departments' concern for the prevention of adverse environmental effects is no new development, brought into being in the last few years. While it may not be necessary to reiterate to this committee the leadership which military preventive medicine has exhibited in the past century, it is worthwhile for the sake of the record to point out that military leaders have long been concerned with the effects of preventable disease and injury on their military capability.

Many current practices in civil environmental sanitation and public health are reflections of the innovations and leadership in applying the then available technology to the needs of military personnel in the field, aboard ship, and in garrison. Thanks to an awareness of the importance of proper waste disposal, maintenance of the best practicable—and I stress practicable—level of environmental sanitation in adverse situations, combined with an application of immunology and the best clinical practices, the death rate from illness in World War II was actually lower than that of the civil population, being on the order of 1 per 140 persons on active duty, versus 1 per 100 in civilian population.

Mr. Chairman, as an aside, I might point out that in the Civil War the ratio of illness and death to persons on both sides engaged was 1 to 11.