This traditional awarenes of the importance of the environment has been vastly expanded since World War II. Modern technology has resulted in the evolution of complex military systems with a wide variety of potential hazards to the health and effectivenes of military personnel. The modern military community is a complex of industrial and technical facilities with all of the problems of civilian urban industrialized areas.

The military departments have an abiding interest and responsibility to insure that their operations do not result in a degradation of effectiveness, and that harm to adjacent civilian communities does not result.

Careful perusal of the testimony given by Department of Defense witnesses appearing before various congressional committees over the past several years will provide an insight as to the depth of concern and scope of action taken. It is significant that departmental policy on this subject has been formalized in DOD directive 5100.50, "Environmental Pollution Control," which among other requirements specifies that environmental pollution control will be included in military system programs, and that appropriate research thereon will be undertaken. This directive provides policies and responsibilities relating to environmental pollution control at every level of the Defense Establishment.

We have rather extensive experiences in matters concerning the more traditional problems of air and water pollution and solid waste disposal at military installations, and in approaching the problems of hazards associated with new systems. There are four primary areas having a bearing on the "issues" suggested in the Advisory Panel's report, upon which some comment in this summary appears to be appropriate.

These are:

First, the matter of goal setting, and the resultant need for better approaches to the establishment of criteria, and the relation of both of these considerations to legislative and regulatory requirements;

Second, the utility of the systems management and systems analysis concept to the pollution problems;

Third, the possibilities for adaptation of military and space technology to the environment of the future; and

Fourth, the question of scientific basis for pollution policy.

With regard to the first of these, it is in order to point out that the Department of Defense has more than an incidental interest. The military departments and agencies have a clear mandate to comply with local and State requirements as to air and water pollution, and are charged with the requirement of "exhibiting leadership" on these problems.

Being thus subject to the necessity for developing programs involving large-scale expenditures of public funds, the Department is naturally concerned regarding the means by which the requirements in this regard are to be specified. The beryllium rocket propellant program, shipboard waste disposal, and the disposal of waste from munition manufacturing operations are typical cases where requirements have had to be established, even without completely valid technical