

particular desired environmental quality involves a series of economic judgments as well as those relating to the system's effectiveness or the desirability of adoption of a particular program or progress which involves a potential hazard to the environment.

One of the first and most essential steps which must be taken is the assessment of the cost of pollution damage. Such costs may be extremely high in terms of effects on military operational capability or in terms of damage to adjacent persons and properties. With increasing degree of controls there should be a reduction in the potential costs arising from the presence of the environmental pollutant. The costs of controls accordingly are offset by the savings in expenditures to compensate for the damage.

On the other hand, at some point, very, very little return is obtained for the increased costs of control measures and the effective costs may approximate that which would have resulted had no effect to minimize or mitigate the pollution situation been taken.

In regard to the problem of determining costs, the question must be ascertained as to what is the uppermost and principal effect of the pollution situation. Human health must be recognized as being unquestionably the most important of the various categories of environmental pollution damage. This central requirement of consideration of effects of health of man cannot be overlooked. Department of Defense policy, as contained in the previously cited DoD Directive 5100.50 establishes the following priorities of effort.

- a. To those situations which constitute a direct hazard to the health of man,
- b. To those having economic implications,
- c. Those which effect the recreational and aesthetic value of our natural resources.

In applying these policies, consideration is given to nuisance and irritation to humans, to effects on livestock and wildlife, property damage, effects on land use, and deterioration or alteration of desirable attributes of the environment.

Summary

The Department of Defense and its subordinate activities have recognized that the problem of environmental pollution require vigorous efforts as part of the total national program. Its efforts like those of the other Federal departments and agencies must be exerted as part of a coordination of public and private efforts at every level of government and in every sector of our economy and society. As enunciated in the Report of the Research Management Advisory Panel to the Committee on Science and Astronautics, there are voids in our knowledge, opportunities for new technology, deficiencies in the existing technology and a need for some new concepts. If a long term overall good is to be achieved, there is a need for:

- a. An assessment and marshalling of knowledge on the various elements of the pollution problem,
- b. The undertaking of those measures which will solve within existing capability and technology the identifiable near term problems,
- c. Through proper forward looking efforts to anticipate and delineate the larger problems of the future, and
- d. The undertaking of research and coordinated effort so as to develop the necessary level of understanding and knowledge of the subject,
- e. Provide a means for new designs and the development of interdisciplinary efforts to expand both knowledge and practice in the problems of ecology.

Department of Defense activities will continue to cooperate toward meeting these needs by continued action thereon within its sphere of responsibility.

(Whereupon, at 11:55 a.m. the subcommittee adjourned until Thursday, July 28, 1966, at 10 a.m.)