

Mr. TEAGUE. Please continue.

Dr. MUELLER. The interest of this committee is well known as regards the future national space objectives. The report on this subject issued by Mr. Teague, the chairman of the Subcommittee on NASA Oversight on July 26, 1966, entitled "Future National Space Objectives," succinctly brought forth the considerations. With the chairman's permission I would like to quote several excerpts from this report.

In the letter of the report to the Honorable George P. Miller, chairman of the Committee on Science and Aeronautics, the Honorable Olin E. Teague, chairman of the Subcommittee on NASA Oversight, stated the following:

Most important, however, is the identification of the need to make positive bold decisions on future national goals in space at the earliest possible time. To further delay these important decisions fails to serve the best interest of the people of this country and the free world.

In the conclusions of the report it was stated "the technology base now exists * * * to define objectives for a concerted program of exploration and exploitation in space during the 1970's." It further provided "criteria to develop a balanced well ordered national space program" and went on to state that "within the framework of the criteria * * * the national space program may be considered in reference to its near term—1967-76—and long term—1976-85—as to emphasis. For the near term, it is possible to utilize existing technology base to extend orbital stay time eventually leading to the establishment of a manned earth orbital system, and to extend the manned lunar stay time capability—possibly utilizing the lunar surface for an operational base—while expanding early detailed unmanned scientific exploration of the solar system and initiating manned flybys of the planets. For the longer term it is feasible to extend manned operation to landings on other planetary bodies and to extend the unmanned scientific explorations of space to the limits of our solar system and beyond."

In fiscal year 1966 the committee supported the Manned Space Flight efforts to define a follow-on program to Apollo. Further, in fiscal year 1967, this committee permitted us to hold open the options, thus permitting the maintenance of the technology base built over the past several years for the Apollo program. As we proceed through these hearings, I think the foresight of this committee's conclusions as published in the report of future national space objectives will become clearly evident. We will be showing plans to utilize the existing technology base to extend orbital stay time. We will be showing our plans to extend manned lunar stay time as well as our study effort leading to manned planetary flyby and to eventual manned planetary landings. We will also be showing the activity in Apollo Applications which will lead to the development of subsystems necessary to longer space flights.

With these considerations in mind, let me now review our progress against the objectives of Manned Space Flight. Here (M64-68) are the general objectives which are unchanged. Next (M64-61) are the specific objectives of the three manned space flight programs, Mercury,