

Gemini, and Apollo. These objectives for Gemini and Apollo also remain unchanged from last year. The achievements of the past year reflect substantial progress toward the accomplishment of all of these objectives, both general and specific. We have completed all of the Gemini program objectives as I discussed earlier this morning. We did not accomplish the Gemini program objectives and the flights during the past year without difficulties, nor is it realistic to assume that we can accomplish the Apollo objectives without experiencing difficulties.

During the discussion of Apollo, I will cover the program status in detail and will show the accomplishments and the difficulties we have experienced over the last year in their total view. I believe it is important that the Apollo program progress be looked at in its total context, particularly in light of the recent unfortunate accident. There has been significant progress made which has been overshadowed by the tragic loss of three brave men—close colleagues to all of us in the program. It is only in retrospect that this shadow can be pierced to place the total Apollo program in its proper balance. The efforts of upward to 300,000 people have been devoted to this great challenge of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to Earth in this decade. The astronauts who have given their lives for this program were devoted to this goal. The greatest tribute that this Nation can pay to these brave men is to accomplish the goals that they worked so hard and gave their lives to help us meet. As I stated before the full committee, I do believe that we still have a reasonable possibility of meeting the major milestones for the Apollo program which were established in 1963 (MC65-5185). In particular, although the probability is lowered, I believe we will be able to land men on the Moon and return them safely to Earth before 1970.

In all our considerations of the current Apollo program and future programs, we have had the benefit of information and studies from several sources. The Committee on Science and Astronautics has provided us with invaluable information over the past several years. I have cited today the study effort published in 1966 on the "Future National Space Objectives." The studies on "Apollo Program and Progress" which were conducted last year and again this year have proven to be extremely useful in our program considerations, as have the new publications on "Space Flight Emergencies and Space Flight Safety" and the "Practical Values of the National Space Program" (fig. 15, MC67-5996).

The President's Science Advisory Committee (PSAC) published a report in February 1967 titled "Space Program in the Post-Apollo Period." I would like to spend a few moments discussing this report as it affects the Manned Space Flight future and relate the Manned Space Flight program you are considering today to the recommendations of the President's Science Advisory Committee. I will brief the recommendations from the PSAC report which have a significant impact on Manned Space Flight, then relate these recommendations to the Apollo Applications program.

Under lunar exploration, PSAC recommends manned expeditions at the rate of one and two per year (fig. 16, MC67-5990). Under the Apollo Applications program plans for our follow-on Apollo