

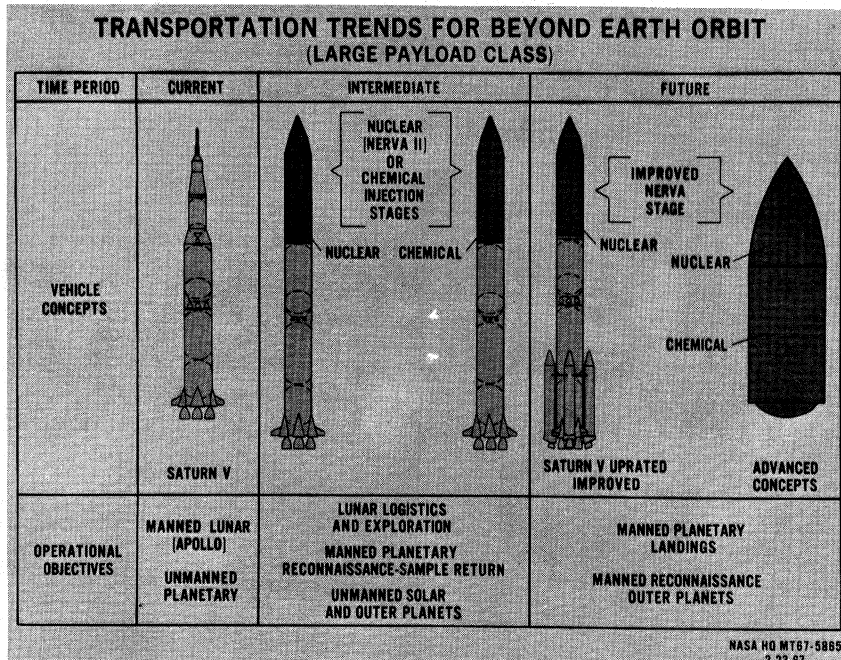


FIGURE 19

engines of the vehicle and, finally, of course, one can go to a new advanced launch vehicle.

I would say at this point in time it would look to us as though the combination of the Saturn V plus NERVA would satisfy our immediate needs for planetary exploration.

Mr. FULTON. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Fulton.

Mr. FULTON. As you remember some time ago the members of this manned spaceflight committee strongly opposed the concept and proposed the building of the NOVA rocket type booster. It would appear that this concept has been completely dropped and NASA is now moving toward the NERVA concept and the high-energy fuel concept, liquid or the large solid concept; is that correct?

Dr. MUELLER. We are advocating the NERVA engine in the 200,000-pound class and we believe that that is the next and needed step toward our launch vehicle capabilities.

Mr. FULTON. You have dropped the NOVA which is as big as the Capitol dome?

Dr. MUELLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. FULTON. Thank you. If I could just say to our chairman, that is one bird that this subcommittee shot down.

Dr. MUELLER. With your permission, I would like to turn to the fiscal year 1968 budget book for Apollo Applications and go through that beginning with volume V, pages RD2-3 and RD2-4.

Turning to Apollo Applications (MP67-5725, fig. 20) for which we are requesting \$454.7 million in fiscal 1968, this is now a program