

ADVANCED MISSIONS

Question 1. Of the \$10 million budgeted for Advanced Missions in fiscal year 1966, how much has been obligated and how much has been expended as of March 1, 1967 (or the latest date for which figures are available)?

Answer 1. Latest information available from a canvass of NASA Centers shows \$8 million of the fiscal year 1966 funds have been obligated. The remaining \$2 million has been committed on study contracts now under negotiation. Of the obligations, about half has been costed.

Question 2. Of the \$6.2 million budgeted for Advanced Missions in fiscal year 1967, how much has been obligated and how much has been expended as of March 1, 1967 (or the latest date for which figures are available)?

Answer 2. The consolidated fiscal year, 1966-68 Advanced Mission Study program is a progressive set of phased studies directed to provide the in-depth technical and fiscal data required for major program decisions. In keeping with the phasing of this study program, fiscal year 1967 funds have not yet been obligated. However, they are earmarked for specific studies which we are proceeding to implement by the end of this year. The fiscal year 1966 program is currently phased for obligation as a followup to the fiscal year 1967 program and we are planning full commitment during fiscal year 1968.

Question 3. Why was the Advanced Missions budget reduced by NASA in November 1966 \$1.8 million below the \$8 million authorized by the committee for fiscal year 1967? Would not the same level of funding (\$6.2 million) be adequate for fiscal year 1968?

Answer 3. The reduction of \$1.8 million resulted from the President's directive to the Agency to reduce expenditures as part of his anti-inflation measures. A total of \$60 million in obligational authority was withdrawn from NASA.

The Advanced Manned Missions study program investment provides a progressive set of phased studies directed at providing the in-depth technical and fiscal data required for future major program decisions that are anticipated in connection with fiscal year 1969-70 budget submissions. The soundness of the Agency's proposals will depend upon the quality, scope and timeliness of the fiscal year 1966-67-68 study program results.

The fiscal year 1968 study program takes cognizance of the \$1.8 million reduction in fiscal year 1967 and, in our judgment at this time, represents the minimum budget necessary for the 1966-67-68 study program to properly support major management decisions.

Question 4. What studies have been conducted by NASA relative to using solid strap-on rockets on the uprated Saturn, and what does NASA foresee as possible missions for such vehicles?