

CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Question. The Subcommittee on Manned Space Flight has made five field trips to NASA field centers and contractors in the last 2 months. Based on these trips, it is obvious that the current NASA request does not include many construction requirements originally considered necessary by the field centers. It is recognized that budgetary considerations often preclude acceptance of many field requests. However, it would be illuminating to be apprised of such field projects. What was the total reduction by the manned space flight area and by field center, of field requests by NASA headquarters? What were some of the major projects eliminated by NASA headquarters and by any Bureau of the Budget action?

Answer. The total reduction in the proposed fiscal year 68 C. of F. program for each Manned Space Flight Center occurred at two levels, first at the OMSF level and then at the NASA headquarters level. The following table summarized these reductions. The figures are in millions.

[In millions of dollars]

Center	Center submission	OMSF submission	NASA headquarters submission
Kennedy Space Center.....	53.1	26.7	22.6
Manned Spacecraft Center.....	15.1	4.4	3.3
Marshall Space Flight Center.....	1.0	.9	.9
Michoud Assembly Facility.....	1.1	2.2	2.0
Mississippi Test Facility.....	2.0	0	0
Various locations.....	10.3	4.1	0
Total.....	82.6	38.3	28.8

The major projects eliminated included such facilities as:

Engineering Laboratory Addition.....	Kennedy Space Center.
Engineering Building.....	Manned Spacecraft Center.
Spacecraft Recovery Environmental Test Facility.....	Manned Spacecraft Center.
Upgrading and Modifications to Test Stand Facility.....	Mississippi Test Facility.
Optical Experiment Facility.....	Various.

The BOB review resulted in the reduction of one OMSF project. This was the Automatic Checkout System Experimental Facility, Manned Spacecraft Center.

Question. In the past, NASA officials have expressed concern over the lack of flexibility in the Fiscal Year 1967 budget level and the difficulties built into budget constraints which do not provide a margin of funds to adjust to unforeseen technical problems. How serious has this problem been with regard to NASA construction projects; how is NASA meeting this problem; and what is the outlook for Fiscal Year 1968?

Answer. The lack of flexibility in the budget levels for construction has caused NASA to reduce the size of its construction program through the elimination of projects which improve our technical capacity, which improve our ability to adequately house personnel on our centers as well as the elimination of those projects which improve and rehabilitate our physical plant. NASA has made do with the budget levels provided and anticipates making the same adjustments during Fiscal Year 1968.