

Mr. SIEPERT. This is an important consideration. The contract will be set up for a 5-year-minimum term, renewable or extendable annually up to a total period of 10 years, so he is assured time for reasonable amortization of his vehicle equipment.

Chairman TEAGUE. I get the impression you people are fairly well satisfied with your construction plan and everything.

Mr. SIEPERT. Yes, we are. It was our judgment that it would be inadvisable to request the additional funding for permanent visitor information center at this time, because it was considerably more money than we think is necessary at this time in order to properly handle public visitors in the next few years. This plan will give us the experience on which we should be able to come forward at the proper time with any necessary refinements or changes which should be included in permanent visitor information center.

Mr. WINN. Maybe I missed it. I think you gave the square footage of the temporary building.

Mr. SIEPERT. 20,800 square feet.

Mr. WINN. Each building?

Mr. SIEPERT. No. This is the total usable space.

Mr. WINN. Total, 20,800?

Mr. SIEPERT. That's right.

Mr. WINN. How much money did you say?

Mr. SIEPERT. The building itself? The building is \$243,000.

Chairman TEAGUE. Dr. Debus, is there any kind of proposal for a memorial for astronauts? I sure wish you people would do something about a museum down here, as a memorial.

Dr. DEBUS. Well, some proposals already have been offered on behalf of the astronauts' families. I think Mr. Webb at the present time does not want to press any particular approach—let it rest several months—and whatever the memorial is going to be, whether it might be in Houston, here, or any other place, he wishes the families to have a say in that. And so, NASA is collecting any ideas, presently looking forward to a time for decision.

Chairman TEAGUE. My guess is, unless Congress does something, we won't do anything. I haven't heard anything that appeals to me as much as a museum down here, that you can add to as the years go by, in line with the history which is made through our progress in space.

Thank you very much, Kurt, and all you good people.

Hearing adjourned at 1:45 p.m.