

1. Data on military obligations and expenditures by program category.
2. Data on military manpower, including draft calls.
3. Data on defense contracts by product group, industry, and geographic area.
4. Data on defense materials set-asides.
5. Data on orders, sales, inventories, and backlogs of defense industries.
6. The latest official forecasts of military programs, as well as comparable historical numbers, and
7. Seasonally adjusted as well as raw or actual figures.

Most of these numbers are available on a hit-and-miss basis, buried in a slue of Government reports, but are never put together in any one single release. This military indicator report should be published at a regular time each month, be readily available to the general public, and the data should be as current as Federal statistics generally.

The military indicators report should be as short as possible, omitting mere operational statistics and other data not essential for intelligent public policy analysis.

Such a report would only be telling us as much about the major component of the public sector as the Government already tells us about some of the smallest parts of the private sector. A monthly military indicator would be a major advance in our economic knowledge and would fill a key gap in our statistical information system.

Thank you.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Thank you for an excellent, concise statement, which also ends on a most constructive note for the future. Would you suggest that we could include in the monthly economic indicators these specific military statistics that you are talking about?

Mr. WEIDENBAUM. I think that would be too tall an order. Perhaps the highlights.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why couldn't we simply have a table, which would include everything that you have suggested, and simply have it as an additional table?

Mr. WEIDENBAUM. Senator, it would be the longest table, maybe the size of this table I'm sitting at.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Is that right? You said you didn't want everything, and you listed how many specific—

Mr. WEIDENBAUM. Seven points.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Was it seven?

Mr. WEIDENBAUM. Yes. It could be shorter.

Chairman PROXMIRE. You also stole my first question. Let me read my first question to you and see if we are thinking along the same line. How valuable would it be for the Joint Economic Committee to receive a single monthly report from the Defense Department containing new orders in the latest month, the total outstanding orders, the expected future delivery dates of both new orders and total outstanding orders and the expected time phasing of prepayments on new orders and outstanding orders.

I take it that is part of what you are asking.

Mr. WEIDENBAUM. Yes, sir.

Chairman PROXMIRE. But only one part.