

Mr. SCHELLING. Inducing more enlistees to come forward. If we find that having raised pay for independent reasons we did not get many more enlistees, then we know something.

If we find we get a lot more, then we can raise it a little more on grounds that, in addition to the advantage of paying these people a decent minimum wage, we find we can get away from a lot of the nuisance of the draft and improve efficiency.

Chairman PROXMIRE. My time is up. I am going to have to go for a rollcall. I will ask Congressman Curtis to take the Chair. I hope I will have a chance to come back and ask a few more questions.

Representatives CURTIS (presiding). Mr. Rumsfeld?

Representative RUMSFELD. Mr. Schelling, what you have said early in your prepared statement is essentially a comment on the response you just gave to Senator Proxmire. I want to say that I find myself very much in agreement with your—what seems to me—very reasonable approach to this.

You suggest in your response, however, that there is somewhat of a difference between you and Dr. Oi. I would like to give Dr. Oi an opportunity to comment on exactly what his position is, because your position, as I see it very simply, is that we are going to have to have in this country for the foreseeable future a compulsory system to recruit military manpower. It has to be available; that we should use it as little as possible, and that at that point where we for national security reasons need a certain level and we cannot recruit it through voluntary means, we should then trigger it in, and that it should be the best possible system, and that parenthetically we should also pay the people who serve in the military a wage that does not amount to a tax on them while they serve, but rather should be something that is close to the Federal minimum wage.

Finally, you stated that during this period of time, having raised the salaries to a reasonable level, having resolved to try to maximize volunteers, we could during the next year or two gain experience and fill some of these very serious information gaps, information gaps, I might say, which even Mr. Wool refers to in his statement.

He says we do not know.

Well, if he does not, who does?

I think this is very important.

Dr. Oi, could you comment on whether or not you agree or disagree with that general approach?

Mr. Oi. I agree with the approach. I would like to see the day in which we announce that we will place maximum reliance on a voluntary force. I would then like to keep a draft on the books as a backup in case of an all-out emergency in which force strengths would have to be built quickly up to 4 million.

In the meantime, if we are talking about foreseeable force strengths of from 2.7 to 3.1 or 3.3 million, I believe that so long as our military requirements lie within that range, we can achieve the goal on a voluntary basis.

Now, in the interim, whether I am right or whether Mr. Wool's high estimates of the costs are right we can determine by making the appropriate adjustments in the pay scale; and I agree completely with Mr. Schelling on this. For the present, I would like to see the pay