

The opportunity to discuss again the entire International Biological Program with the committee I think, in a way, demonstrates the increasing interest of the subcommittee in this program and, in a sense, parallels the increasing interest on the part of the scientific community as this program has developed.

In our previous discussion on May 9, reference was made by Dr. Revelle, you will recall, to the desirability of what you referred to as a "line item" somewhere in the Federal budget that could be identified as funding for the International Biological Program, and at that time, if you will recall, Mr. Chairman, you portrayed vividly the dangers of a single "line item" in the budget for any purpose.

Also at that time there was considerable discussion of the similarity between the International Geophysical Year and the International Biological Program, and I think the fact was brought out that it was possible for agencies to enter a line item for the International Geophysical Year and to defend that line item quite successfully.

The problems of funding and of highlighting the funding of the program which are really what I would like to address myself to. Since this has been a recurrent subject of discussion before the subcommittee, I took the liberty of consulting the Bureau of the Budget on this matter, and I can report, to begin with, that there really are two aspects of this. The first has to do with the Administration budget, and the second has to do with what Congress does with the administration budget.

I would only say that in terms of how Congress would deal with an administration budget, I defer to the opinion of the subcommittee, but I would also state my own opinion, that a strongly-worded, penetrating report from this subcommittee would go far toward making it possible to defend whatever budgetary structure is suggested by the various agencies for this program.

Mr. DADDARIO. You understand that when we had that discussion at the earlier meeting, it was just a normal process of looking into every point being raised. It was not any fixed position that I was stating.

I was then and still am trying to figure out how it would be best to file this whole program. In fact, the major reason we wanted to have this meeting this morning, as you have rightfully stated, is to discuss that aspect of it.

It seemed to me at that moment to try to get line item support in each of the agencies would run into a great deal of difficulty.

At this stage of the game it is even more complicated, but as it gets to be more complex, the arguments in favor of having a worthwhile program for the IBP over this period of time becomes more and more formidable.

You state your case very well on the one hand, and you show the needs for funds, on the other. The more funding you put in, to my mind and that of the committee, the more difficult you make the problem.

Dr. BENNETT. I would like to restate what you said. It seems to me that once the administration budget is formed and has to be defended before the various committee of Congress, then the best defense will be a strong statement of the benefits to accrue from this program,