

things do change, then separate funding could be directed for IBP purposes.

Dr. GALLER. I would subscribe completely to that, Mr. Chairman, with one caveat.

I have no objection to launching our IBP financially through agency subscriptions, although I recognize that at best this would be an interim, initial approach.

However, if this seems to be the practical way of supporting the IBP, it would be my own hope that the agency subscription would be in the form of dollar support that would be transferred or in some way assigned to a single agency, possibly the National Science Foundation, which would serve as the "banker" for the U.S. National Committee providing support to the USNC-IBP through a grant or a contract with the National Academy of Sciences.

I suggest this as an improvement over what appears to be the present mode of financing, which is to provide direct financial support only for the so-called housekeeping expenses of the U. S. National Committee. However, the research projects have been independently supported by the several agencies. The most that the U.S. National Committee or its subcommittees have been allowed to do is to review the proposals submitted to the several agencies to assess proposal relevance to the U.S. National Committee's program; however the financial decisions are made exclusively by the agencies. I think there is a danger in following this system, because it means that IBP proposals received by the agencies compete with proposals received from many other sources.

They are reviewed not only in terms of scientific adequacy but also in terms of relevance to the agency's interest and missions. Thus it, could easily occur that a proposal considered to be important for the IBP would go unsupported under the present arrangement by virtue of the fact that there would be more existing mission oriented proposals for the several agencies to select for support.

So I would hope, agreeing with the point that you have made, Mr. Chairman, that the agencies would participate financially, but would participate by providing grant support to the U.S. National Committee to use in ways it considers appropriate.

Mr. DADDARIO. There are some practical obstacles in arranging for such freedom of funding. As we have discussed this from time to time with witnesses, it seems that we substantially run into the agency problem of needing to be accountable and to arrange their own method of accounting for their own support for specific kinds of projects. Until you reach that time when you can arrange for funding which is free of agency control, you will perhaps continue to have some problems in supporting all those things which the National Committee would like to support.

Dr. GALLER. This has always been a problem, Mr. Chairman. However, I can recall on many occasions when I was associated with the Office of Naval Research we would arrange for the transfer of funds to another agency that served as the "lead agency" for the support of an important program. These problems are not really insurmountable. Of course, everything depends on men of good will. There are administrative problems, what I would call the paper pushing prob-