

Mr. SCHULTZE. But nevertheless the basic decision would have to be taken in the 1968 budget about what to do with manned space flight capability, and starting with 1965, NASA began to examine a number of alternatives. Those alternatives were discussed with many areas in Government, but let's just stick with what NASA was discussing with the Budget Bureau. NASA made a number of presentations to the Budget Bureau, and discussions were held, beginning in the summer of last year.

NASA came up with a number of alternatives, and those alternatives gradually began to be narrowed down.

As you know, the major problem, of course, is that even though the manned lunar landing, in terms of work to be accomplished, has a long way to go, the leadtimes are such that either you make a decision in 1968 to provide the development to maintain manned space flight capability thereafter, or you let it go.

Representative RUMSFELD. Exactly.

Mr. SCHULTZE. Now, in the 1968 budget, far from being a highly unspecific program, there is a specific program for post-Apollo, as specific as any development program can be, and what that involves is a combination of two things really closely related.

One is, some plans to use Saturn I-B's that might not be needed for the manned lunar landing program, with certain adaptations.

Representative RUMSFELD. I do apologize for interrupting.

I am aware of what is in the budget for 1968.

My question runs to your responsibility with respect to this type of decisionmaking process just as Senator Proxmire's ran to yours with respect to the Department of Defense.

Mr. SCHULTZE. Right.

Representative RUMSFELD. I am interested from a procedural standpoint.

Mr. SCHULTZE. Our main responsibility is to insure that all of the relevant and reasonable options are developed for presentation to the President. Now, when you are getting down to nickels and nuts and bolts, the agency and the Budget Director can very often settle that and make a joint presentation to the President, and there is not much disagreement. But on something as important as this—

Representative RUMSFELD. More like \$100 million in last year's budget.

Mr. SCHULTZE. What I meant to do is contrast simpler problems that with a decision like this where the point is not simply to have one option but to be able to present the President with a number of different options.

Our responsibility is (a) to insure that those options are developed, and that all of the options that are reasonable are presented to him and (b) to make recommendations. But it is up to the President to choose among these. So, I would say here, our role is developing the options and alternatives for the President's decision, in conjunction with the agency head—what the costs are, how they relate to other fiscal problems, et cetera.

Representative RUMSFELD. Thank you.

Representative REUSS. I would like to ask what I think is a very fundamental question, probably the most important I am going to ask in this series of hearings.