

Mr. SCHULTZE. Let me let my hair down a little bit and tell you what would happen if we did that, exactly what happened last year when we sent up programs which we wanted cut, which are very difficult to cut.

Chairman PROXMIRE. What about the Congress? If you recommend cutting this, I think you would get a much different response this year than last year.

Mr. SCHULTZE. It may be. All I know is the experience we had is that we were accused of sending up in that year a phony budget because we had a lot of cuts in it which, it was alleged, we knew the Congress wouldn't accept. This is the accusation.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Just don't ask us to cut the school milk program.

Mr. SCHULTZE. I won't. You will notice we didn't this year.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Congressman Curtis?

Representative CURTIS. I have been enjoying this so much because this is exactly the kind of interrogation that I think the Congress through its committees should have been conducting for many, many years. We do need to get into the rescission area. We have now a \$125 billion carryover of expenditures.

Mr. SCHULTZE. That is about right.

Representative CURTIS. Along with the request for \$130 billion of new funds, and many of these programs of course by their very nature are cut back. Now take space. The Gemini program I am happy to relate, because a St. Louis concern is involved in the agreement, actually agreed to the termination of around \$250 million. I think the agreement came because it was felt that the essence of what could be achieved with Gemini was achieved.

I know of many programs that by their nature need revision, the same kind of revision we are talking about on the overall. Granted, the Executive may do some of this, and I think it does, and the Executive has said it has done \$3 billion worth of deferments. If they were able to do that, I suspect the Congress could do a similar job, if only we would undertake it.

Now here is where I must part company with my good friend from Wisconsin, because I am a Republican. If I had something to say about what our committees are doing, I hope this is what we would be doing. Unfortunately the Congress and the congressional committees are under the control of the Democratic Party, and they don't do this revision and deferment. Let me hasten to say that I am not unaware of the fact that Republican Congressmen have a lot of the same attributes as Democratic Congressmen. They are affected by projects in their districts and so on. It is a difficult task.

As I was talking with one of my colleagues, he said, "What program would you cut out?" I said, "If you don't put it in the context of what program you think has less priority than others you will never get anywhere." If you are just fighting for your budget cut against the world, you are up against it. When the budget was submitted I was one of the one or two voting against the veterans' pension bill. Yet I said this is a program that I thought probably deserved a great deal more priority than many of the things in the budget. And I said to my colleagues, "Yes, if you want this program then be willing to move out other programs that are in the budget to make way for it." These are the hard realities.