

In addition, I recommend that the Defense Production Act be modified to require—

(1) Department of Defense contractors to certify that rated Defense orders receive priority over nonrated orders.

(2) Periodic inspection of Defense contractors' plants to insure that the proper priority is being given to rated Defense orders.

(3) An annual report to Congress identifying instances in which priority assistance requested by military departments was not provided. This report should include all cases in which contractors failed to comply with the provisions of the act and outline the specific enforcement action taken in each case.

I believe the measures I have recommended would do a great deal to improve the Government's ability to obtain military equipment in a timely manner and at reasonable prices.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Admiral Rickover. You may be sure that this committee will give your views serious consideration.

Admiral RICKOVER. I deeply appreciate talking with this committee. You know the esteem I hold for Congress and my deep respect for it. In a very heartfelt manner, I believe it is the Congress more than any other body that stands for us in preserving our democracy.

All of us love our country. We want to preserve our freedom and our wonderful land for our children and their children.

I am deeply grateful for the privilege of appearing before you, and for permitting me to talk freely. There is an obligation on those who know segments of Government to see that their knowledge is not lost. I am merely trying to do the best I can, to discharge my remit and I know you will at least given consideration to what I have said. So I want to thank you, sir.

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Admiral, and I just want to say for the committee, and I think if the chairman where here he would say it, we have a very fine committee, satiated with love and understanding on both sides.

The gentleman from New Jersey, Bill Widnall, is very capable and I think deeply interested in the poorest of the poor. He, sitting on the left, is trying as much as I, sitting on the right, am trying to make our country strong from within.

Admiral RICKOVER. I believe there is the potential to save enough money, by taking corrective action in Government contracting to help pay for part of these programs.

Mr. BARRETT. This is a very revealing thing. We have a splendid minority here, from the lowest man on the totem pole, all the way up. It is, I think, the finest that represents the people of the United States in Congress.

We are going to hold it that way, and I am sure they will all be grateful for your most edifying information. This is very helpful and very revealing, and I want you to know we are grateful for your coming here.

Mr. WIDNALL. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to add on the part of the minority, our thanks for your coming here today and for the very helpful information you have given us. Your constructive criticism bears looking into and requires real insight on the part of the Congress.

Admiral RICKOVER. Thank you, sir.