

And yet, I wonder about the time involved in the formation of these, and the chairman of these committees working together seeing there is no problem of antagonism.

The government is being charged already with certain responsibilities of establishing the air quality standards. How do we prevent the situation from becoming catastrophic while we are establishing this very nice organizational structure?

Dr. GERSHINOWITZ. Well, I would be the last to deny that an organizational structure can be inhibiting rather than assisting in progress. However, I think in this particular case the assignment of responsibility for short-range solutions to these engineering committees, combined with the simultaneous assigning of some responsibility to each of the chairman for making sure that he is looking over the shoulder of the others around, is already some assurance that rash things would not be done but also that more important things will be done quickly without waiting for a complex interaction of committees. I think the mere realization that there is such a structure, that there are channels available to these specialized specific committees, to obtain the kind of advice and information that interacts with them, is enough in itself to take care of the lack of interaction. It provides for immediate support, immediate application of knowledge. At the same time it provides for fairly immediate application of knowledge from interacting disciplines.

I don't think it is necessary, as I conceive it, for each of these committees to delay any recommendation until everyone else has had a chance to look at it. I think that is not the way they are intended to work. It is just as long as they are conscious they have that broader responsibility, they will almost automatically start to incorporate that way of thinking into their recommendations.

Chairman MILLER. Doctor, have you ever taken a look at the National Council on Marine Resources and Engineering Development, or the work that is being done in the Space Council? I, as a member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, 8 or 9 years ago was made the first Chairman of the Committee on Oceanography after the Academy of Science rendered its report.

There had never been a complete study of this kind within Government. The first thing we found was that oceanography was centered primarily in seven agencies of Government. Although there had been an interagency committee, it was on the third or fourth echelon and everyone would have to go home or work their way up to the Secretary and on down. Nothing was done, so much so that there was no one place in Government you could go and find out what was being done in this field. There was duplication.

Well, one of the first things we did was to set up the calibration center. We tried it by law and it got bogged down but fortunately, a very fine Under Secretary of the Navy succeeded in getting an authorization through under the general powers of the President.

We found that there was no standard for instrumentation in the field of oceanography, even in the private sector. Woods Hole wanted to do something; they wanted to do something else at La Jolla, Tex. Many were getting into this field because of exploration. So we established the calibration center so that we could standardize.