

General KLOCKO. Yes.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. These pictures we get on TV from Vietnam are through Comsat rather than yours?

General KLOCKO. None of our pictures have been on TV.

Mr. ROBACK. This TV is just reels that are flown in?

General KLOCKO. I would think so. I am not sure on that.

Mr. COHEN. There is no TV in Comsat. At the present time they have the capability, but in order to transmit TV on the Comsat facilities in the Pacific, they would have to turn off all or most of their voice communications.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. So these are films that are flown in, that we see?

Mr. COHEN. Yes. Some of them are transmitted at times by Comsat after having been flown to Japan.

Mr. ROBACK. They have a station in Japan?

Mr. COHEN. They use a large terminal in Japan.

Mr. HOLIFIELD. Thank you.

General KLOCKO. It should also be noted that on two instances during the past year, the DSCS was used to restore communications lost as a result of cable breaks. This capability was not otherwise available. The breaks occurred between Hawaii and Philippines and the SEASIA coastal cable between Thailand and Vietnam.

That completes my summary of the status of the IDCSP. Now I would like to touch briefly on several developments for the near future. Only one AN/MS-46 and one AN/TSC-54 remain to be deployed and that will be completed shortly. The completion of the 12-channel upgrading of the AN/MS-46 and the correction of difficulties in the Navy's AN/SSC-3 terminals will then be the only outstanding items in the IDCSP.

As you know, the United Kingdom has ordered two satellites similar to the IDCSP but in a synchronous orbit. These satellites, known as SKYNET, are being produced by Philco-Ford under an Air Force contract. Although the scheduled launch of the first of these satellites has slipped from late 1968 to mid-1969, everything appears to be progressing satisfactorily in this program.

After many months of negotiation, NATO has finally decided to procure two of the SKYNET-type satellites. These are also being produced by Philco-Ford under an Air Force contract. [Deleted.] SHAPE, as agent for NATO, recently requested bids on ground terminals to operate with these satellites. Because of the agreed production-sharing formula the ground terminals will be produced by a consortium of European and Canadian industry with the U.S. share being taken up by the satellites and launch vehicles. A contract for the ground terminals is expected before the end of this year.

[Deleted.] We have undertaken through a series of discussions to insure a measure of interoperability between United States, United Kingdom, and NATO ground terminals and satellites. We are near a general agreement on the principle of the need for interoperability, particularly under stressed conditions, and are endeavoring to work out the technical details.

As I explained earlier, we have a reasonable probability that the present system will provide us with some operational capability until around 1971. We also know that beyond that time, and particularly starting in mid-1972, the system will degrade to an unusable level.