

the Bureau. The direction of a laboratory's activities is subject to continual review and, within its mission, there is enough flexibility to take on new projects as they become necessary.

To answer your question on the utilization of capabilities existing in our laboratories by other government agencies, the description of current activities indicates that there is a considerable sharing of information and occasional exploitation of facilities across agency lines. Public Health Service laboratories occasionally undertake specific research projects for other government agencies.

As to a laboratory's ability to respond to national problems in which they have a capability, the capability of Public Health Service laboratories lies in the area of health research, which in itself is a national problem. The board capability necessary to meet other national problems such as transportation, housing and crime, do not exist in our Public Health Service laboratories except where there may be a health problem connected. I believe our record indicates a high degree of responsiveness in this area.

While the suggestion that laboratory directors have funds available to respond to new areas of opportunity has merit, within the general mission of Public Health Service laboratories, there is some latitude for the director to venture into new areas. This is accomplished administratively and there appears to be no need for special funds for this purpose.

You asked about guidelines regarding the establishment of new laboratories when new missions are established. The choice is between utilizing existing laboratories or establishing new ones.

The existing laboratory missions within the PHS range from disease investigations to air pollution controls. The skills needed in these laboratories vary accordingly, the specialized personnel employed in these programs is rarely adaptable to new, entirely different missions. The same is true for the facilities.

For these reasons, when we choose between using an existing laboratory or establishing a new one, our choice is usually determined by the suitability of personnel and facilities.

Mr. Chairman, as I stated earlier, this presentation is very general. A more exact description of the diverse laboratories within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare would be tedious. We can provide you with descriptions of individual laboratories and with reports from them, and we have some of these documents with us, should you wish to have them. We will be pleased to discuss any questions.

Mr. DADDARIO. Thank you, Dr. Jacobs.

You have been here during this morning's discussion concerning what authority laboratory directors ought to have as far as discretionary funds are concerned, and you have heard the discussion concerning the competition for funds.

Recognizing that your situation is somewhat different than that of the Department of Defense, what is your judgment about this?

Dr. JACOBS. I think Dr. Mider can supplement me on this argument, but I would like to say that from my own experience as a laboratory director—I was acting scientific director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for a year and of the Division of Biologics Standards for a while—I know that because of personnel