

Mr. ROUSH. Was one of your problems in seeking solution to this specific problem that the departments and agencies conducting research and development did not have a reference service, or are you saying there should be a central reference service?

Mr. LEHAN. It would ease our task if there were a central reference service available. The Department of Defense and NASA, do have their own reference service, but I feel we would find a central service useful.

Mr. ROUSH. The same Executive order I referred to a moment ago, which was issued by President Eisenhower in March of 1954, had in section 8 a sub-paragraph (c) that states in part:

"Each Federal agency possessing such equipment and facilities shall maintain appropriate records to assist other agencies in arranging for their joint use or exchange."

Would you say there are sufficient records kept by the various agencies now so as to provide a source for you?

Mr. LEHAN. My feeling is there are sufficient records kept by all agencies we have contacted.

The difficulty has been no central point where those records are all available. I don't want to overstress the point, but I think that it is something that is worthy of consideration.

Mr. ROUSH. Mr. Brown?

Mr. BROWN. Looking at page 6 of your testimony, you indicate that the Federal laboratory capability for all modes of surface transportation is quite limited compared to that of air transportation.

The figures that you indicated earlier showing the importance of transportation in our economy as representing 20 percent of our gross national product, most of that is expenditures in ground transportation.

Mr. LEHAN. Yes, sir, it is.

Mr. BROWN. I am concerned very much about what procedures or steps are necessary in order to change that priority for the allocation of a research and development capability.

It seems to me that we perhaps are considerably out of balance in looking at the total problem of transportation as a national problem, which I think your agency is concerned with doing. What steps are necessary to examine this balance, determine if it adequate and proper, and if it isn't to make the necessary changes? What needs to be done by your agency, by Congress, and any other changes that need to be done?

Mr. LEHAN. This is a difficult problem and I can't propose a solution here. I am planning my first visit to the DOD Detroit Arsenal Command, because they have considerable ground transportation capability.

I think a major question is: Should, in any formal sense, the NASA mission be broadened or should they be given encouragement to work in other than the aeronautical and space research area?

Mr. BROWN. Well, I am not at all satisfied with what I see in this area. I do not think that any public spirited citizen should be satisfied. What we are seeing is a ground transportation system—and I think in air transportation the situation is completely different—but we are seeing a vast rail system which for a generation has been in the process of decay for lack of adequate R. & D. We also see an auto-