

Although it is not possible to present a detailed description of a typical weapon center, some of its important characteristics can be defined as follows:

- (1) It would be oriented toward a military mission or a military problem.
- (2) The number of professional scientists and engineers would be of the order of 1,000 or more, so as to achieve a "critical mass."
- (3) The weapon center, which may have more than one geographical location, would be a self-contained organization in that it would perform research and development with feasibility models as the end product. These models should be capable of demonstrating proof of function in a military situation.
- (4) The director of the center would have direct control over all the resources required, such as funding, manpower and facilities; and he would report at a sufficiently high level that echelon "layering" would be minimum.
- (5) About 70 percent of the professional personnel would be devoted to creative in-house engineering. Although contracts would be awarded, the fundamental development engineering would be accomplished within the center.
- (6) The weapons center's specialists would participate in the determination of military requirements associated with its mission.
- (7) The center would be involved in the initial procurement of equipments and would provide support to the procurement agency when large-scale production is achieved.
- (8) The overall performance of the center would be critically evaluated on a periodic basis to guarantee that the center is a competitive organization with high performance standards and achievements.