

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Participation of Laboratories in Weapon-System Planning

The Task Force urges that an intensive program be established to sharply increase the direct involvement of the in-house laboratories in high-priority RDT&E activities. Their involvement must include:

- . technical evaluation of operational equipment,
- . participation in the generating of requirements,
- . systems analyses and syntheses,
- . interaction with the SPO-industry team, and
- . planning for future weapon systems.

The success of a program of this type, which will depend heavily on the Departmental Directors of Laboratories, should drastically increase the participation of key laboratory personnel in the weapon-system decision process. As a result, the technological program (R&D categories 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3) should be more directly focused on critical military needs.

(1) Recommendation: The Task Force recommends that, by 1 January 1967, each Military Department prepare plans for action that will markedly increase the participation of its laboratories in planning for weapon systems.

Some suggested approaches are:

(a) Establish ad hoc systems groups to help define important technical problems in specific areas of military concern.

(b) Create systems teams of laboratory personnel to define threats and determine the vulnerability of proposed major weapon systems.

(c) Have the laboratories examine current 6.1 and 6.2 programs and recommend which specific ones should be heavily supported in FY 1968 or 1969, based on the relevancy of technical accomplishments to military needs.

The Task Force suggests that, in recognition of the Departments' individual differences in mission and management approach, the DDR&E permit them broad latitude in responding to this first recommendation.