

gram of modification and retest of the Saturn V in order to arrive at demonstrated solutions to the problems encountered on the Apollo 6 (AS-502) mission. The Saturn V will be ready for manned space flight in December. However, delays in test and check-out, at the Kennedy Space Center, of the first manned Lunar Module made it obvious last month that a manned Lunar Module mission could not be undertaken before February or March of next year. Therefore, we have decided to fly the next Saturn V, No. 503, with the Apollo Command and Service Module only, and not to carry the Lunar Module on that flight. This decision enables us to move forward in employing the Apollo-Saturn V space system while we work out the problems that are currently delaying the checkout of LM 3, the Lunar Module that we had intended to fly on 503.

In the revised schedule, the flight this month, if successful, will be followed by a "Command Service Module only" Saturn V launch in December or January; that is, by a Saturn V launch of the Block II Command and Service Modules into earth orbit without a Lunar Module spacecraft. A Lunar Module test vehicle will replace the spacecraft, and "all-up" testing will be resumed on Saturn V No. 504, which we hope to launch by March of 1969 with Lunar Module 3 and the third Block II Command Service Module.

The Saturn V mission in December or January is planned as a low earth orbit mission to prove out the modifications to the Saturn V launch vehicle shown necessary in Apollo 6 and to cover any difficulties in the CSM that Apollo 7 might encounter. Depending on the success of the Saturn IB Apollo 7 mission this month, it may be necessary to repeat one or more experiments of that flight on the first manned Saturn V flight. On the other hand, should Apollo 7 prove highly successful, we may be able to plan on a more ambitious Saturn V mission in December or January, with deeper penetration into space and with consequently more rapid accumulation of knowledge and experience on the capabilities of the Saturn V CSM system for long range mission operations. With this in mind, we are holding the option open, in our contingency planning, for higher earth orbits, a circumlunar mission or a lunar orbital mission. The final mission decision will be made in November, after a thorough review of Apollo 7 and the status of Apollo 8 at that time.

We testified before you earlier this year that manned lunar landing and return in 1969 remained a possibility if we could accomplish the first eight Saturn V missions by the end of 1969. This is still the case under our present operating plan. During this period, the Apollo operational workload in NASA Centers will reach its peak. This is so not only in the three manned space flight centers and at Goddard, which support manned flight directly, but also at our other centers, almost all of which support each manned mission in one or more ways.

Apollo Applications.—The President's authorization request for this program totaled \$439.6 million. The amount in the authorization act is \$253.2 million. At this level we simply cannot carry out the program which we presented to you earlier this year.

The strong desirability of maintaining the Apollo, aeronautics, and space applications programs at the full level authorized by the Congress; the need to rebalance accounts in order to match the in-house scientific, technical and managerial resources under administrative operations with requirements of our on-going programs; the need