

they have, I think, an outstanding record in the publication of this kind of information for public understanding of the program. I think that either in these committee sessions or at any other time that you wish information, the chairman will encourage NASA to provide it in any form most useful to you.

Senator HATFIELD. And you would be receptive to receiving information from us, I suppose, too, concerning the great opportunities and advantages of various parts of the country for this type of study and development.

Mr. WEBB. Yes, sir. We are always prepared to listen and consider the views of those who have interests and desires to present in connection with these developments. We do operate under the procurement laws of the United States in connection with contracting and where the work is done.

Senator HATFIELD. I read you well.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

APPRECIATION FOR WEBB SERVICES

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Holland?

Senator HOLLAND. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Senator HOLLAND. First, Mr. Webb, I join Senator Cannon—and I am sure others expressed similar feelings before I got here—in expressing my appreciation for you. I think you have done a fine job. I have not always been as complimentary as perhaps I should have been, but I have been trying to improve this program where I felt it should be improved and I am sure you have understood that some comment that may have sounded rather critical were more friendly than they sounded.

Mr. WEBB. Senator Holland, I would express to you personally what I did to the committee before you arrived—my deep appreciation of the consideration that you have given me—I believe that both in those areas where we have proceeded without having to go into vigorous discussion and those where we have had a vigorous discussion, both have been helpful to us in NASA and, I hope, in making the program stronger. So, I appreciate the interest you have taken and the way you have gone at making sure you have had a solid basis for your decisions.

APOLLO PROGRAM OBJECTIVE EMPHASIZED

Senator HOLLAND. Thank you, sir, and I fought for the program, as you know, pretty hard on the floor of the Senate and will continue to do so as long as I think it is being well run and I have no reason to think that we will find other than that situation under the leadership of Dr. Paine.

Now, a few questions.

First, I am glad to see that apparently you still are making Apollo at this time the real objective.

Dr. Paine, I note that in your self-imposed ceiling of \$3.85 billion, and in your budgeting of that, you are not reducing at all the authorization in this year's Act for the Apollo activities for 1969. You are leaving it at the full total of \$2,025,000,000, is that correct?

Dr. PAINE. Yes, sir.

Senator HOLLAND. I want to say what I have said sometimes here before, that I think this is a real challenge. I think that the regaining