

Dr. PAINE. I believe to clarify this, Senator Holland, that the difference has been the fact that in the latter part of my statement I was referring to the Federal Civil Service employees. Mr. Webb was talking about total numbers of people involved in the NASA effort.

I could give you a few numbers on this. We had planned in our budget this year to reduce the total number of people in the United States employed in NASA programs, either inhouse or in the contractor, university, JPL type operation, from some 270,300 last year down to 235,000 this year. In our interim operating budget, in order to get down to the \$3.85 billion level, we have been forced to take the total, all people, down to 215,000.

Senator HOLLAND. That is a reduction from 270,000.

Dr. PAINE. From 270,300.

Senator HOLLAND. To 215,000.

Dr. PAINE. Yes, sir.

Senator HOLLAND. Obviously then, since you say that Civil Service personnel will be reduced only 1,661, and that largely through attrition, it is quite obvious that your principal reduction is in the universities and the contractors.

Dr. PAINE. Well, this primarily, of course, reflects the completion of much of the equipment fabrication and the construction of facilities, which we have had in the past. As the equipment is now coming off these production lines and into the NASA shops for launch from Cape Kennedy, after testing at Mississippi test, as the people who built it phase out.

Senator HOLLAND. Well, your construction of facilities program is largely finished, is it not?

Mr. WEBB. Yes, sir. About 40,000 workers have been released out of NASA's construction program as it was finished, Senator.

Senator HOLLAND. And your data acquisition and tracking program has largely been completed, has it not?

Dr. PAINE. No, sir.

Mr. WEBB. Completed so far as construction except for those units that we have spelled out in this plan, but the operation of the network is now a major problem. And we are being restricted from building up the kind of operating capability for the units we have already built that we feel would be important. We are under a very austere budget so far as the best utilization of this network in which we have made the capital investment.

Senator HOLLAND. Well, that is what I have been thinking, and I was a little fearful that this statement that you put in here would indicate a very minimum effect upon your operating capacity and I wanted the record to show a little more clearly that you are being seriously hurt, though not in the places mentioned specifically by Dr. Paine in that part of his statement that I have referred to.

The fact is that your operation overall is being greatly hurt by this reduction in the amount of money available this year. Is that true or not true?

Dr. PAINE. Yes, sir; I should certainly make that clear. The reduction of 3,000 people since July 1967 at a time when our flight responsibilities are increasing has indeed meant a very deep cut for us. This, of course, is a 10-percent reduction.

Mr. WEBB. And one of the real problems, Senator Holland, that I think you have felt yourself in some of these important areas is that