

Mr. WEBB. Yes, Senator Cannon, but until you get the signature on the dotted line, you may find that they have to find \$50 million somewhere and come back to us for part of it or something. So, it simply cannot be considered final until it is finally acted on.

Senator CANNON. When do you anticipate that you will have final approval?

Mr. WEBB. As soon as the President has signed the bill and we can then proceed to detailed discussions with them. As early as the Bureau of the Budget would meet with us and I would assume it would be almost within 24 or 48 hours after the President signs the bill because we are urging them to give us final approval. We are already over 3 months into the year.

Senator CANNON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

NUCLEAR ROCKETS PROGRAM

Mr. GEHRIG. Mr. Chairman, I have a number of other questions on the Nuclear Rockets Program that I would like to just put in the record to be answered at this point.

(The questions and answers submitted follow:)

Question 1. How will the additional \$7 million affect the activity at the various governmental and industrial locations participating in the program? How many additional people will be required?

Answer. Approximately half the funds will be associated with the NERVA technology testing at the Nuclear Rocket Development Station in Nevada. These funds will allow more thorough testing of the XE engine and allow the retention of an estimated 300 additional personnel of Aerojet-General, Pan American and Edgerton, Germeshausen and Grier who were scheduled for layoff by the spring of 1969.

The balance of the money will be used for retaining Aerojet-General personnel at Sacramento to support the extended technology testing to proceed with NERVA I design, and some fabrication and test of NERVA I hardware. Approximately 100 personnel which can now be retained by Aerojet-General in Sacramento were scheduled to be laid off by the end of 1968.

Question 2. A few days ago a \$12 million contract extension with Pan American for support work on the Nuclear Test Station was announced. How is this contract funded?

Answer. The contract is funded on an annual basis. AEC funding is used initially with NASA subsequently reimbursing AEC for its share.

Question 3. How much from the AEC?

Answer. Approximately \$8,600,000.

Question 4. From what part of the AEC budget does this come?

Answer. Approximately \$8,000,000 from AEC Operating Expenses and approximately \$600,000 from Capital Equipment.

Question 5. How much from NASA?

Answer. Approximately \$3,400,000.

Question 6. From what part of the NASA budget does this come?

Answer. NASA R&D. Approximately \$1,550,000 from the NERVA Budget Line Item and \$1,850,000 from the NRDS Operations Budget Line Item.

Question 7. What will you use as a booster for the NERVA if the Saturn V is not continued?

Answer. The NERVA engine is a key element in our capability for the future exploration of space and, because of the lead times involved, will not be available for use until the late 70's, extending into the foreseeable future. While in past discussions we have often described its use in a third stage of the Saturn V, it can be used advantageously as an upper stage for any booster in the Saturn V-size