



Mr. Gray then recommended that the Administration itself appoint a small committee to make a six months study, possibly under Gov. Hoegh, at the direction of the President. He forewarned that this could involve some terribly controversial decisions. He emphasized that the study should cover the entire field rather than just the Government aspects of it, including (1) how to achieve maximum utilization; (2) planning techniques; (3) reallocations; (4) potential future demands, and (5) necessary organizational changes. The President directed Gordon Gray, Gov. Hoegh, Mr. Stans and Gov. Adams to confer later with him as to the details of this. He expected the money for the study could be had by contributions from interested agencies who might also detail staff and support. While the President preferred a Congressional base for this study since it would provide subpoena power, he believed the Administration should move ahead prior to January 1, 1959. Mr. Gray believed this committee should not include any Government officials. He related an inquiry as to possible funding from the President's Emergency Fund. The President repeated his belief that it was important to figure out how to get this study going and to get to work on it.

Lunar Probe - The Vice President asked whether adequate public preparation had been made against the possible failure of the impending moon shot. Mr. McElroy emphasized what had been done about making known the small possibility of success but admitted that the press preferred to handle in terms of great expectations.

The President got from Mr. Quarles a brief explanation of the trajectory and duration of the lunar probe should it prove successful. He emphasized that the average speed would be much less than the velocity needed to escape from the atmosphere, hence would require two and a half days to reach the vicinity of the moon.

(The President, the Vice President, Mr. Hagerty, and a few others left the meeting at this point.)

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Outer Space Briefing - Mr. Gordon Gray reported that approval had been given during the NSC meeting yesterday to a preliminary outer space policy. He noted that some of the introductory paragraphs of the paper incurred Budget's objections because they seemed to exaggerate the importance of outer space to the people of the United States. Subsequently, he re-emphasized this point as one worthy of much attention, particularly since the Russian Sputnik did capture the imagination of the world and completely transformed attitudes about the status of Soviet scientific achievement.

Mr. Gray noted that the paper did not attempt to cover US policies regarding ballistic missiles or the anti-missile missile. He noted some definitions as to what constituted space and how the United States had refrained from settling on any specific mileage to delimit sovereign air

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space. He then listed briefly some of the potential projects for exploration of outer space.

Mr. Gray stated that international cooperation was cited in the paper as highly desirable, to be accomplished through the UN, multilateral agreements, bilateral agreements, etc. Regarding military implications of this, there might be some cooperation with our allies but further consideration was necessary regarding security aspects.

Mr. Gray reported conclusive evidence that the Soviets are conducting a high priority outer space program. Dr. Killian commented that the Russian achievement in great rocket thrust would seem to make it impossible for us to catch up for at least a year or two.

There was a brief discussion as to the interests and activity of any of our allies in the light of reports that the Chinese Communists would engage in a space project. Dr. Killian reported that none of our allies were active.

Mr. Gray gave a status report on the new Space Agency and Space Council. He expected the latter to be similar to the NSC, though it would not meet so frequently. Dr. Killian added that the Space Agency would back up the military in certain aspects of research and development but that its primary purpose would be peaceful development.



*LAM*  
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