

Q. John Scali, Associated Press. Mr. President, to return to the Zhukov matter for a moment, sir, you said, in answer to an earlier question, that your reply at the news conference the last time on Mr. Zhukov was a hypothetical answer to a hypothetical question. Could you tell us how you view the possibility of a visit by Marshal Zhukov today?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I should like to say this: As you know, we have many allies in the world, and anything that looks like a bilateral attempt to dictate to the world on the part of ourselves and any other country, we try carefully to avoid, so anything that we would do we would be certain to clear with our allies; and if everybody agreed, why that would be one answer. If everybody was fearful, we would have to take that into consideration.

Q. Roberts, Washington Post. Is it a correct interpretation of what you have said about your satisfaction with the missile program as separate from the satellite program, that you have no plans to take any steps to combine the various government units which are involved in this program and which give, certainly, the public appearance of a great deal of service rivalry, with some reason to feel that this is why we seem to be lagging behind the Soviets?

THE PRESIDENT: Well now, Mr. Roberts, there seem to be certain facts that are obvious. First of all, I didn't say I was satisfied. I said I didn't know what we could have done better. The cost of these duplicating or seemingly duplicating, programs is quite enormous, and I would like to save it. But even now, where two in the ICBM class seem to have gone far enough that we should have some basis of comparison, I set up, at my direction there was set up, a committee of experts to decide which way we should go, and they have decided, or did the last time, just certainly a few days ago, that they didn't have quite, yet, the basis of fact on which they could determine which was the best direction to go.

Now, in almost every field that I know of, air-to-air, ground-to-air, air-to-ground, ground-to-ground, ballistic missiles, aerodynamic, there are some of these programs that are overlapping all the time.

As I think I told you before, the last estimate I had on armed military research and development, the money we spend yearly without putting a single weapon in our arsenal is \$5,200,000,000. Now that isn't any weak, pusillanimous effort; that is a lot of money.

Q. Marvin Arrowsmith, Associated Press. Mr. President, Senator Butler of Maryland says he is reliably informed that the Navy, if it wanted to, could launch a satellite right away quick. Do you know, is that true? Are they