

President made, by the way, a few months ago, you made a statement that we are outnumbered by more than 2 to 1 in most categories of military hardware.

You made the statement. I challenge that statement. But since you made it, I would like to know how many categories of military hardware are there?

Mr. THAYER. In the book that we put out, "Soviet Military Power," I think it covers that question very completely.

Senator LEVIN. How many categories of military hardware are there, is the question I have asked of you.

I have asked this question of the Defense Department for the last 3 months, and, Mr. Chairman, I think this is a critical issue. I know it doesn't directly involve procurement, but what these kinds of statements are used for is to defend, No. 1, the increase in the budget and, No. 2, procurement practices.

Now, a few months ago, the President said that, "In virtually every measure of military power, the Soviet Union voices a decided advantage."

Now, he told the world that in November of 1982. I have been asking the Pentagon, "How many measures of military power are there?"

By the way, before I asked the Pentagon that question, I asked the Library of Congress that question and whether or not the President was right. The Library of Congress, an independent, objective body that we rely on, both sides of the aisle, said, "He is wrong."

Now, can you tell me how many measures of military power there are since the President said that the Soviet Union enjoys a decided advantage in almost every one, or can you tell me this morning how many categories of military hardware are there since you say this morning that they enjoy more than a 2 to 1 advantage?

Mr. THAYER. I would have to go through this book and count them up, Senator.

Senator LEVIN. But you obviously counted them before you made that statement.

Mr. THAYER. No; I haven't counted them. I have gone through this book. I think it clearly demonstrates our point in every category we talk about.

Senator LEVIN. That is not a comparison book. That is a book that shows us the Soviet military capability. That doesn't purport to be a balanced statement, does it, showing us against them in every category of military hardware?

Mr. THAYER. I think, in effect, it does just that.

Senator LEVIN. And you are saying that that book shows us all of the categories of military hardware; is that what you are saying?

Mr. THAYER. No; it doesn't show all of them.

Senator LEVIN. So, I cannot look to that book to answer my question. I am asking you that question again. You are using this statement to derive a procurement budget. You are saying, at the beginning of your statement, "First the competition is stiff. The Soviets have invested about 60 percent more than the United States in military equipment last year." Yet you don't include our allies.