

And so my point is that it is not organization that is the problem. The problem is always the relationship between people.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. NICHOLS. Thank you, Admiral Moorer.

I first have to ask you about the President's Philippine man. I wonder if he ever got promoted.

Admiral MOORER. Finally.

Mr. NICHOLS. Let me ask you, Admiral, going back to your comments on the military council, as a distinguished military leader and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, would you accept a spot if you were offered it on a military council? Would you not have some reluctance as a retired military, but one who keeps in close contact with the military, in-trying to advise or counsel with the current members who are now in authority?

You have hung it up as far as the military. You have a tremendous amount of knowledge. All of us on this committee appreciate that knowledge. And the argument has been made that all that knowledge shouldn't go to waste.

But I think I would have some hesitation perhaps in sitting on a council like that whose job is to impart my advice on current people who are in the driver's seat and running the show.

Admiral MOORER. Mr. Chairman, I would not only hear, I would refuse, because I would feel that I was unqualified to make a contribution for the reason that you point out.

We live in such a highly technical world and such a fast-moving political scene that unless one has an opportunity to read the dispatches every day and to attend the meetings that go on at high levels in our Government, he simply does not know and is unqualified, in my opinion, to give all kinds of advice to those who are running the particular business. So I think that this council would die on the vine.

I would like to point out one other thing about this council I notice. The bill here goes into great detail about the personnel, the Chief of Staff of the National Command Authorities. It says absolutely nothing about who is going to staff the council. If the council in fact is going to do all the things that the bill says it is going to do, it is going to need a staff almost as large as the Chief of Staff of the National Command Authority.

And so what you are doing is just bloating the bureaucracy by putting in another layer, which I think would be nonproductive, and for that matter, counterproductive.

Mr. NICHOLS. My next question has to do with the 400-man statutory limitation that is currently limiting the size of the Joint Staff. In light of your testimony last year and comments this morning, what do you think of the administration's proposal to remove the 400-man statutory limitation on size?

Admiral MOORER. Well, first, in general, I believe that the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff are too large. On the other hand, as I told several Secretaries of Defense, if they would remove the question askers, I would remove the question answerers.

But at the same time I don't think that a finite number, like 400 or 300 or 200 is meaningful because the facts are that by various means the personnel would be, I think, produced, regardless of