

thing that has been a bugaboo to many of us, and I am sure to yourself, over a number of years. I think it would be a mistake for us to go to the so-called purple-suited operation they have in Canada, for example. I am sure you share that view.

Admiral MOORER. I think it would be an absolute disaster. I have already commented to the point it is absolutely full of pitfalls. It contains an arrangement which this Congress, this Armed Services Committee, already says is repugnant, which is what you are talking about now. So I agree with you 100 percent.

Mr. STRATTON. Let me ask you one other question, somewhat timidly. Mr. Skelton has a National Military Council in his bill. I think you testified earlier that you didn't feel that council could give very good advice because it wasn't up to date, and you would not serve on it.

I authored in another bill, in the previous Congress, a proposal for a national strategy advisory committee, I don't remember the exact title, which in my judgment would provide recommendations from senior retired officers, like yourself, who would have experience. Although you and I are probably both too young to really remember this, it would be something like the General Board in the Navy back before World War II.

Would that kind of a body be in a position to be helpful, or would you oppose it in the same way that you oppose the national military council?

Admiral MOORER. Well, I would oppose it for the simple reason there is no way these individuals—and I try awfully hard right now to keep up with what is going on. I have a terrible time doing it, because I don't have access on an almost hourly basis, attending meetings and reading messages.

I think so far as the general board is concerned, the Navy abandoned it for that same reason, after the war. It was because no human can keep up with the technology and the new tactics, and particularly the intelligence, because you don't get the intelligence once you retire that you need to advise properly on strategy.

Now, I, personally, happen to get it because I am a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. But as a rule, I would not.

Mr. STRATTON. Thank you.

Mr. NICHOLS. Mr. Britt.

Mr. BRITT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Congressman Ray asked the question about the budgeting. I would like to ask you a question which is only indirectly related to the reorganization, but which certainly impacts on it. As you look back, and you described the process of assessing the threat and trying to fashion a response to that, in your estimation has that process worked pretty well?

You hear about the constituencies that develop for weapons systems, you hear about the interservice wranglings and those kinds of things. In your perspective, as you saw that process at work, does the present budgetary system, the present process of trying to allocate resources for the national defense, work pretty well?

And what in your candid opinion are some of the problems that we might focus on if there are serious problems in that process?