

problem of general disarmament; that the West had offered significant concessions since the talks resumed in March, only to have the Russians step back from positions that had already been agreed upon; and that it was going to be extremely difficult to enter into the new kind of international relationships that seem to be required by the advent of nuclear weapons so long as the Russians insist on an unlimited concept of national sovereignty that makes a useful system of international law impossible to achieve.

Despite the vigorous tone of the white paper, as a policy statement it did not go beyond what both the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations have been saying for a long time: that the U.S. cannot permit the present unpoliced ban to run on indefinitely. The paper was primarily a criticism of Russia's uncompromising attitude. It did not assert that the U.S. *would* resume testing, and apparently no such decision has yet been made.

Space Discoverer Recovery

The Air Force soon may put a monkey in prolonged global orbit and attempt recovery as a result of the safe return and pick-up of its Discoverer XXV last Monday. The capsule had orbited the earth 33 times during a 50-hour ride in space.

Parachuting skin divers, all trained medical corpsmen, part of the 76th Air Force rescue squadron, recovered the 1-ton vehicle when it fell into the Pacific out of reach of Air Force planes standing by for an aerial catch.

The Air Force Discoverer program began 28 February 1959. It is an open-end research and development program aimed at perfecting a general-purpose space vehicle or "space truck" that can launch a variety of payloads.

The program has achieved, among other things, the first polar orbit; the first completely stabilized and controlled vehicle to be set in orbit and then redirected from ground controls; the first successful orbit and recovery of animals; the first aerial recovery of a space vehicle; and, now, the recovery at sea by parachuting skin divers.

If successful, the Air Force plan to recover a monkey after more than 2 days in space is expected to yield important information on the effects of weightlessness and on radiation.

Subversion and Education

Both the Senate and the House of Representatives are considering the question of subversion as it may relate to government loans for education.

The Senate Education Subcommittee has accepted President Kennedy's proposal to repeal the disclaimer affidavit provision in the National Defense Act of 1958. This provision requires a college student receiving a government loan to execute an affidavit disclaiming subversive beliefs and affiliations.

Twice during his terms in the Senate Kennedy tried to win repeal of the provision, but his efforts were unsuccessful.

In support of his legislation, Kennedy pointed out that several universities have refused to use the loans because of the loyalty and disclaimer requirements. If passed, his original bill would have removed both provisions. His present proposal does leave in the law the loyalty oath requirement for students. This is similar to the oath required of the President, and all those working in government, and most universities and colleges have found this less objectionable. The repeal of the disclaimer provision in the student loans, it should be noted, will not apply to students who may be recipients of fellowships and grants.

The American Legion has protested the Administration's proposal to drop the disclaimer affidavit, charging through Miles D. Kennedy, legislative director of the Legion, that those opposing the loyalty affidavit were waging "an active cold war of anti-Americanism." When asked by Representative John Brademas (D-Ind.) if he was accusing President Kennedy and former President Eisenhower, who had also opposed the provision, of being anti-American, the Legion official said he did not mean that they were un-American, but "they have been wrong before."

In the House, the Committee on Science and Astronautics opened hearings to investigate awards of fellowships and scholarships by the National Science Foundation.

The hearings were called at the request of Representative Richard L. Roudebush, a past national commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a member of the House committee. He charged that the NSF was lax from the standpoint of security when it awarded a \$3800 fellowship to a student con-

victed of contempt of Congress as a result of a hearing in 1958 before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The student, Edward Yellin, had refused to answer when asked if he was a Communist.

Roudebush, expressing shock and anger at the NSF grant to Yellin, said, "I think that there was not the necessary security exercised by the National Science Foundation. Greater security should be exercised whenever public funds are spent." He pointed out that the House Science Committee does have jurisdiction over the NSF grants by legislation as well as by House rule.

The House Science Committee, at its hearing, asked Alan T. Waterman, director of NSF, on what basis Yellin was awarded the grant, made in March of this year. Waterman said the law provides that the applicants are to be judged solely on ability. In response to the question whether the Foundation would have reached the same decision in approving the grant to Yellin if it had known of his conviction, Waterman said, "I believe so." Waterman and NSF counsel William J. Hoff said an applicant would be entitled to a fellowship, if he qualified on grounds of ability, regardless of a court conviction, whatever the grounds for the conviction might be. Several committee members said they felt that the law was deficient and should be changed.

Yellin had planned to use the grant to continue his engineering studies at the University of Illinois. He was recommended for the grant by Illinois faculty members, who may be brought for questioning before the House Science Committee, according to a statement by committee chairman Representative Overton Brooks (D-La.).

Yellin had based his refusal to answer the House Un-American Activities Committee query on the First Amendment to the Constitution. A staff member of the Un-American Activities Committee said, "This left him wide open to a contempt charge. If Yellin had pleaded the Fifth Amendment, no action could have been taken against him."

Upon his conviction in April 1960, Yellin was sentenced to a year in prison. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the conviction. Yellin now is carrying the appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. In applying for the NSF grant, Yellin signed the disclaimer affidavit and took the loyalty oath.