

for a more positive, central planning for development of a long-range nature to promote the maximum degree of efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in the administration and management of costly ADP facilities. Would you mention some of the specific factors which should be considered in development of long-range programs for the Government in use of ADP equipment?

Mr. MAHONEY. In addition to a short comment here, I might suggest that we provide you a little more information for the record on this because we feel this is very vital to the Federal Government's planning and thinking about this whole field.

Mr. BROOKS. We would be glad to accept for this record a run-down on factors and elements in the consideration of a long-range planning program for Government ADP utilization.

Mr. MAHONEY. Just for the moment I would like to mention some of the items that were covered in a report from the Comptroller General of the United States to the Government Operations Committee, March 27, 1962. In this letter the Comptroller General pointed out the need for more positive long-range planning throughout the Government. The information on page 64 of this report briefly covers the fact that we were asking for active central coordination in the Federal Government to assure good procurement, good contract administration, the same thing we are talking about today. Also listed is the need for effective leadership in the Government to minimize wasteful duplication of effort among individual agencies where they are working on the same kind of problems. Then to be alert to the possibilities of Government-wide integration of systems between Government agencies. Also the need for compatability and coordination and interchange of data through magnetic tape means between the Government and industry, and between Government agencies. We will furnish you a more detailed statement on this.

(The material referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE ON THE SPECIFIC FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE POSITIVE LONG-RANGE PLANNING FOR THE USE OF AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

In view of the large expenditures involved and the long-range implications of far-reaching effect on Government operations generally, we feel that more positive long-range planning efforts on some kind of a Government-wide basis than have been had in the past need to be undertaken if the Government is to achieve most effective, efficient, and economical use of these systems.

Among the important problems that require Government-wide attention, for example, are the following:

(1) The extent to which the Government is equipped with the required know-how to proceed with the development of electronic information systems in view of the costs involved and the enormous challenge presented to all levels of management. The answer to this question should, to a considerable degree, assist in determining the rate of growth which should be allowed or fostered.

(2) The extent to which long-range planning and control should be centralized in view of the potentials for development of integrated systems on a Government-wide scale.

Active central coordination is needed to assure good procurement practices. There is also need for an effective central information service within the Government so that officials at the many locations where equipment is rented will make most effective application of the contractual terms.