

factors in mind, do you have any reservations insofar as GSA's ability to carry out the responsibilities outlined in H.R. 5171?

Mr. BOUTIN. Mr. Chairman, I do not. And I would like to point out on that note that right now is an ideal time, in my judgment, from what I know of this entire matter, for such legislation to be introduced. The changes that are taking place, not only in equipment, itself, but in methods of data transmission by wire, the opportunity of one computer center to handle a number of small agency requirements, pooling of these requirements, all of this lends itself, I think, to exactly what you, the members of this subcommittee, are looking to accomplish here, and what the Comptroller General has said must be accomplished to save this money.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Chairman?

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Moorhead.

AVAILABILITY OF PERSONNEL

Mr. MOORHEAD. I would like to ask, Mr. Boutin, if you have in GSA at the present time personnel who are capable of analyzing these tremendously difficult machines and these difficult processes and the varying needs of this department or that department?

Mr. BOUTIN. Well, let me answer the question this way, Congressman:

No. 1, in the ADP area of GSA, itself, for our own requirements, we have about 481 people. Some of these are operators; some are programmers, the whole gamut. In addition to that, we have substantial know-how in our procurement operation, where, in fact, they have already gone out to the manufacturers and have developed these schedules of costs, both for lease and purchase.

So we do have substantial in-house capability right now.

Mr. MOORHEAD. But you would have to get additional in-house staff of very high caliber to manage a program of this size, would you not?

Mr. BOUTIN. Well, I would like to think, Congressman, that we have people of that caliber right now.

Now, how many additional people would be required, I could not tell you. It would be minimal. It may require some reassignment. Somebody may be in a certain job now we may want to reassign into a very small staff function that the Comptroller General referred to.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Thank you.

TRADE-IN OF EQUIPMENT

Mr. BROOKS. On trade-ins, Mr. Boutin, I understand that today an agency can trade in a purchased computer on a new model and receive credit against the purchase price.

Now, under this program you establish, would any particular agency receive the credit under those circumstances?

Mr. BOUTIN. Under the program as outlined by the bill, any trade-in would go into the revolving fund, itself, as would additional amounts of money required for the new piece of equipment come from the revolving fund. The revolving fund is the vehicle that would