

But I would have no doubt of the validity of the figures of the Comptroller General. We have not conducted a similar audit. We have had no opportunity, really, to do it.

Mr. STINSON. Well, would it be possible to take into consideration the value of the equipment currently being used by the various agencies, and come up with some kind of a figure, as to the total value of the equipment?

Could you do something like that?

The Congress, I would think, is going to have to have some kind of assurance as to how much capital outlay is going to be required, or they are not going to go along with this program.

Mr. BOUTIN. I would say, in answer to that, that it would be quite easy to come up with a figure along the lines you request from the information the Comptroller General has available right now. I would say he and his staff can come up with a pretty good fix on that, Congressman.

Mr. BROOKS. We will work on that. And I would just add, as an additional thought, that, of course, if we adopt this program and continue to lease or rent, you would still have considerable savings. Purchases would be made only with justification to the Appropriations Committees.

Mr. STINSON. Mr. Chairman, may I also suggest that, while we are getting some figures together, that we could come up with the approximate number of people that would be required to implement this saving. I think this would be a question that would be asked on the floor when this bill would come up. It usually is.

Mr. BROOKS. We will work on that.

I want to say, Mr. Boutin, that we certainly have appreciated your coming down. It would be helpful if you would furnish us with a memorandum outlining the comparable duties presently performed by the GSA to those set forth under H.R. 5171.

(The memorandum referred to follows:)

In accordance with request made at the hearings on H.R. 5171 on May 28, 1963, following is a statement outlining existing GSA activities and centralized service operations which are comparable to those proposed to be vested in GSA by H.R. 5171.

This legislation would have the effect of instituting for automatic data processing equipment and related services, the same efficient and economical management and utilization systems envisioned for all types of property and records when the Hoover Commission recommended, and the Congress established, the GSA.

1. CENTRALIZED PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING

Thousands of items are contracted for by GSA under its Federal Supply Schedule contracts against which the various Federal Agencies place orders throughout the year.

Specific purchasing and contracting techniques have been developed to meet the basic objectives of GSA's supply programs which are (1) continuity of supply, (2) short lead time, (3) flexibility to meet changing requirements, and (4) advantageous prices.

It is our practice to utilize a method of term contracting in stores item buying which provides a contract source against which orders may be placed as requirements arise. This has been advantageous to both the Government and supplier, enables GSA to minimize its inventories, and still provide rapid service. The contractor is in a position to commit raw materials, organize production schedules, avoid overtime to meet delivery schedules for large quantities, reduce the cost of production, and permits the contractor to meet Government de-