

access to the information so security does obviously become more difficult to maintain. If you have a lot of people who can get into the computer and take out information, it always will be harder for any investigating body later to try to trace down how the leak occurred.

Mr. HORTON. I was not so much interested in having you comment on the technology of the computers because I realize that is something the experts will have to do. I was thinking more in terms of your opinion as one who has delved to a great extent into this problem of the invasion of the right of privacy, your comment on how you as a layman, not an expert in the technology of computers, envision what will be happening to the individual citizen with the use of this computer system.

For example, consider how many 12-digit numbers can be added in 20 seconds. With a pencil, the answer is two. With an adding machine, 10. With a computer, 160 million. The rate of change is astronomical. This change is on us already. It is here.

I was more interested in your layman's view as to what is going to happen to the individual with the use of this type of highly technical information or tool which can compile this information and have it available. I was more interested in your personal opinion, rather than the technical aspects of it.

Mr. PACKARD. Certainly there are many functions in our society that can be greatly improved by the use of computers. As a matter of fact, I am using a computer myself in terms of some research I am getting together to work out correlations and findings. So, I do not think we should be frightened by the computer as a machine, but I think we should be frightened by what it can do if the information involves individuals and their identity, and I think we need to make sure that before the Federal Government gets too deeply involved in installing computers that have data fed into them involving individuals' records, that this body and the Congress make sure that the individual identification is removed from the material.

Mr. HORTON. You would not, certainly, curtail the population information about people?

Mr. PACKARD. No; certainly not.

Mr. HORTON. You are not advocating that computers not be used.

Mr. PACKARD. Oh, certainly not; no.

Mr. HORTON. You are advocating that this technological advance be harnessed and that there be established safeguards to protect the individual.

Mr. PACKARD. That is correct.

Mr. HORTON. One of the proposals or suggestions which you would make would be along the lines of that which the chairman has made, to give some sort of right to the individual to know what information is available on him so he can correct it or have his own opportunity to be heard, as it were.

Mr. PACKARD. That is correct, yes.

Mr. HORTON. Have you any other thoughts with regard to how this advance could be harnessed and safeguards built into it?

Mr. PACKARD. No thoughts occur to me offhand, no.

Mr. HORTON. Have you any thoughts or any possible recommendations with regard to how the Congress could act in this field?

Mr. PACKARD. I think the Congress and this committee and several of the congressional committees have been extremely effective in their