

Mr. BOWMAN. You are talking about techniques of communicating information.

Mr. GALLAGHER. We are either talking of hand-carrying tapes or telecommunications. What are you talking about?

Mr. BOWMAN. I am not willing to talk exclusively about either one of those but I am willing to say——

Mr. GALLAGHER. There are not many other areas involved here.

Mr. BOWMAN. If the objection is to telecommunications, I think it could be established that there are considerable advantages to a data center even if you had to hand-carry the tapes. I would not want to rule out——

Mr. GALLAGHER. Is that what you are recommending? Hand-carry tapes to agencies and use computers?

Mr. BOWMAN. Hand-carrying?

Mr. GALLAGHER. Yes. If you are ruling out telecommunications you are now——

Mr. BOWMAN. I have not ruled it out. I have said that it is not exclusively necessary in all areas.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Bowman, with all due respect, if you are ruling out telecommunications, why can you not now use the hand system we have and hand-carry tape for those people who wish access to it if they are legally entitled to access to it?

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Chairman, much data collected by present agencies, and which use computers, are collected in regional offices. We do not have a situation now for communicating the information in the regional offices, telecommunicationswise, in many instances to the agency which is responsible for tabulating the data. We do not have that now.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Are you recommending telecommunication now?

Mr. BOWMAN. Am I recommending it extensively in every area where it is possible?

Mr. GALLAGHER. No, for the general purposes of your central data bank and regional offices and departments that will be participants.

Mr. BOWMAN. To the extent to which I would be willing to recommend it, we have not studied it yet. You see, this hearing is in a sense preliminary to any proposal that we are bringing before the Congress. We have not finished our job yet. We have not completed our review.

Mr. CORNISH. Mr. Bowman, in one of the reports it is suggested that telecommunications might be used to provide the information from the Data Center to the users; is that true?

Mr. BOWMAN. That is right.

Mr. CORNISH. I think that possibly is one of the points that the chairman is trying to make in this regard. That is an idea which is before the Budget Bureau?

Mr. BOWMAN. That is right. I think we will want to investigate it and we will want to look very closely at whether or not this provides the opportunity for disclosing, for invading anybody's privacy. This is one of the things that will have to be examined.

Mr. GALLAGHER. It should be an essential thing that it be examined by somebody before it is set up and the same machine call off the kind of information they should not have access to.

Mr. BOWMAN. Suppose you do not reveal the identity of any individual?