

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Is the movement for this from the inside out or the outside in? Is this a part of a small group who thought this would be a good idea and went out and solicited potential customers, or did the agencies themselves find a need for this and suggest it to the centralized headquarters?

Mr. BOWMAN. Let me answer the question. I have been with the Bureau of the Budget now for 10 years. This has been discussed and suggested in innumerable conversations with me by almost every agency in the Federal Government, yes, and by all sorts of persons outside the Federal Government, State and local governments, individual scholars and a great many people, that there is need for better access and better ability to use the data which is now distributed among different agencies.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Have you found that private industry has been in the forefront of making use of computers in modern technology?

Mr. BOWMAN. Large industry has, yes.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Is it part of your idea to have the Government keep up with private industry?

Mr. BOWMAN. I would hope the Government would always be as efficient as possible with modern technology, yes.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. In the case of computerized equipment has private industry taken the lead as compared to the Government?

Mr. BOWMAN. I don't believe so.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. You would agree with the proposition that the Government has special responsibilities in terms of constitutional rights and invasion of privacy that private industry might not have?

Mr. BOWMAN. I certainly do.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. And that in your use of technological equipment, there is this unusual and much harsher but appropriate burden of responding to constitutional obligations?

Mr. BOWMAN. And I would agree that in some instances modern technology might have to be not pressed as far as it could go in order to protect the constitutional rights of individuals.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Subsequent to this meeting and perhaps before that, you had that as a principle, that you might have to give up some of the advantages of modern technology in terms of the constitutional responsibility?

Mr. BOWMAN. That is right.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. I note nowhere in the Dunn report any comment at all that we have to be aware of invasion of privacy, or individual privacy, or constitutional responsibilities. The closest I come to it is on page 10, the disclosure problem. In very few words nothing is mentioned at all in the whole report about this area of special Federal responsibility.

Mr. BOWMAN. The only way I can explain this, Mr. Rosenthal, is that all of us who were working in this area sort of assumed that it didn't really have to be discussed. In other words, the statistical system has been so imbued with the notion that you do not reveal information about the individual—it didn't get mentioned. I am very sorry, and I think Mr. Dunn is probably very sorry, but you can ask him.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. But those in the statistical field in the Federal Government have a special role as compared to those in private industry, in this area of constitutional rights and constitutional obligations.