

Indeed, one of the strongest arguments for an improved statistical servicing capability such as I have proposed, is the fact that some integration of procedure and regulation is important in making the best use of the technical safeguards that have and can be developed to assure personal privacy.

So much for statistical information systems. The second part of the issue of personal privacy is related to information systems directed to the uses of intelligence. The issue here is basically different. You can't ask, "How can an intelligence system be designed to protect the output of information about the individual?" That is what it is designed to do and it has many legitimate purposes recognized by law and society. We have already identified examples of these.

Whether or not as a matter of practice the rights of individuals to personal privacy have been adequately protected in these systems as they currently exist, I cannot say. My area of professional experience has never involved me with this type of information system. I would just like to make two observations.

(1) As a layman concerned with personal privacy, my impression is that actual and potential violations of personal privacy are more important and more serious in intelligence systems of this type. It is my impression that this is the area where investigation and reform are more drastically needed.

(2) It should be the concern of Congress that a general-purpose, public-servicing statistical information system should be protected from any use as an intelligence system. I think I have demonstrated that this has and can be done.

I have gathered the impression that there might be equal concern that intelligence systems likewise never be used as statistical systems. This is not the danger. There is not a symmetrical relationship. If you have a properly established and safeguarded statistical system, you can often gain by associated—either permanently or temporarily—records generated for administrative purposes with the statistical system.

For example, the Internal Revenue records or the Social Security records produce as byproducts—that is, things that have to do with their public face, age, sex, race, and so forth—certain demographic characteristics of the population that can be used statistically for making good, economical statistical population estimates for the intercensal years when used in conjunction with benchmark data from the census. Again, it may be useful and desirable to make a statistical analysis of the characteristics of the population of public assistance recipients for evaluation of public policy, in order to evaluate some aspect of public policy.

Such uses of traditional administrative records can be accomplished without any violation of personal privacy. The essential point here is that in the association such administrative records would gain all of the protections of a properly organized statistical information system.

Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Thank you very much, Mr. Dunn.

You have both pointed out the need, though not very well, of the benevolent uses for which the central data bank is to be used. I was interested, Mr. Ruggles, in the programs that you pointed out as being successful and rendering a valuable service.