

well be that the men we have in charge of the Bureau now are concerned about these things, but the fellow in the line after him may not be at all concerned about it and may disseminate the material and in a very unwise, abusive fashion.

Mr. DUNN. There is no point of difference between us at all on this point.

I made the point in my statement that I think we have had enough experience with the various kinds of technical and legal devices for protecting security, and they have worked sufficiently well that we know it can be done. We have demonstrated that it can be done.

I am not taking the position that all of the legal and technical provisions which have been in effect for all of the elements and fragments of the Federal statistical system have been adequate in their functioning, have been adequate for this purpose. I am saying that we have a base of experience which assures us that we can go on to review substantive process, technical process and legal constraint to assure that a statistical system can operate with proper safeguards and I would suggest nothing be done without that kind of assurance being generated in the process.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. That is the point I want to make.

You would agree with the testimony we had this morning that before Congress authorized the executive branch or appropriated funds for the executive branch to institute such an installation that Congress make sure there is adequate legislation to protect the constitutional rights of the individual.

Mr. DUNN. Precisely.

I am on record within the Bureau of the Budget, in the Director's office, with a statement to the effect, in writing, that before a formal proposal can be developed in terms of the substance of a system that would be proposed for implementation, that a very substantial amount of technical and legal staff work needs to be undertaken and to be accomplished, and that the first step is essentially something comparable to what the engineers in the Pentagon might call a "phase zero" study. We have to look at this first with the kind of resources which allow us to say "Here's what we want to do: Namely, provide for more efficient statistical services—and at the same time assure and strengthen—and I emphasize "strengthen"—"the protections against personal privacy, and here is what it is going to take to fulfill these obligations."

Mr. ROSENTHAL. It seems to me that you fellows don't come in with clean hands if you hadn't considered that before you went to the trouble of printing all these documents and making this presentation. It would seem to me that that would be one of the first things I would have thought of before I went so far along as you people have. What you are doing now is reacting to the interest of a congressional committee. I have some doubts as to whether you would have done this had this inquiry not been held. It would seem to me your reputation would have been enhanced had you done this in the first instance on your own, of your own volition, and included it in all these documents, and books that you have prepared.

Mr. DUNN. I agree. I can only say in my defense in this regard two things: The first is—and this is really the only important point—that I was asked to come in and to review a series of procedural and