

personnel and cost on a 3-year basis and reflects the type of applications currently being performed by the Center computers.

The POP is an internal quarterly funding report which is submitted by all field Centers to NASA Headquarters. A separate plan is submitted for each appropriation. In the case of the Research and Development and Construction of Facilities appropriations, the costs are shown by program and project. For the Administrative Operations appropriation, the costs are reflected by BOB object and sub-object classification. The sub-object class is further shredded-out to cover the area of computers. It contains the purchase, lease, and maintenance costs of equipment and shows contractor costs for operations and programming of NASA-owned machines. The plan contains past-year actual dollar totals and current- and budget-year estimates. The current-year estimate shows 6-month projected cumulative obligations with quarterly cumulative totals and totals for the fiscal year. There are other planning documents which are part of the computer reporting system, such as the individual acquisition plans and special reports and studies which are prepared for top management, the BOB, and Congress. These reports also provide information related to the overall planning of computer systems in Manned Space Flight.

Computer management reports forwarded to OMSF from a Center Director's office are sent through channels to the MSF Technical Support Branch for evaluation. The only exception to this procedure is for individual reports and acquisition requests for real-time and checkout computers, which are evaluated by the Mission Operations group and the Operations Support Systems and Checkout Branches, respectively. The reports or plans are reviewed for such items as need, technical feasibility, funding requirements, facilities requirements, and utilization. Where overall reports contain data on project requirements, they are coordinated with appropriate project offices. Funding requirements are coordinated with the MSF Resource Control Office.

The completed evaluation, including the detailed analysis, is forwarded to either the Director of Management Operations, Mission Operations, or the Apollo Program Office, as appropriate, for recommendation to the Associate Administrator for MSF, either to be approved at that management level or to obtain concurrence where reports or plans must be approved at a higher management level.

Each field Center, as well as NASA Headquarters, conducts overall reviews of the entire computer system operation. These reviews generally take the form of detailed reports or briefings. For example, at MSFC and MSC, the Center Directors annually receive a presentation on all aspects of the computer systems. The Office of Manned Space Flight conducts periodic reviews both at the Centers and at NASA Headquarters.