

files and files on persons convicted of crimes; (5) files of revoked drivers' permits; (6) medical records on Government employees or applicants, and patients of Government institutions; etc.

It seems obvious to us that since this type of information is largely useful to provide information about individuals *per se* it has no major place in a statistical data center which, by definition, does not provide data about individuals.

We believe it will also be necessary to take another step in restricting the files of a Federal Statistical Data Center. If the Center is given authority to utilize the files of the data originating agency, when necessary, then the files the Center actually possesses can be restricted to samples that no universe data would be in the continuing possession of the Center. This will largely foreclose temptations to organize files along individual dossier lines and would make attempts to use the Center to obtain information on individuals have very little pay off. If the Center is to achieve its purposes, however, it must have authority to use such universe data outside its own files under appropriate conditions and also to have some impact on the type of file maintenance of such data.

Perhaps equally important with these general principles is the need for providing some way of authorizing what goes into the Center. It might be provided that transfers of data into the Center could only be by direction of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget in consultation with appropriate advisory groups. This could be arranged by supplementing the authority now vested in the Director under existing law.

We believe that these types of arrangements supplemented by an annual report of the Center's file inventories and uses could provide the protection to privacy which is desired. These arrangements would not significantly impair the usefulness of a Center in making data and data services available, and in improving the compatibility of data when used in association.

It must be remembered, of course, that the development of a successful center, if proposed, would be difficult and could not be immediate. I estimate that the first two years would be required to determine what files are pertinent for center use; to edit them for storage and retrieval uses and to arrange for their transfer or for access to them when transfer seems undesirable.

I have attempted to cover most of the major topics in which I believed this Committee is interested. For the general information of the Committee, I am attaching two tables showing expenditures for the principal statistical programs and agencies for 1950, and by years since 1956. I will be most happy to try to answer any questions you may have.