

electronic communications basis all of the job, all of the employee availability, and job availability data we are talking about, a bill of \$200 million, for the whole job. I would like, if I may, to have this general statement supplemented by Mr. Ruttenberg's reference to some efforts we are already making in this direction.

Mr. GOODELL. May I ask, with reference to the \$200 million figure that you mentioned, is that an initial cost figure?

Are you talking about a total figure? Would there be an annual maintenance figure of less than that?

Secretary WIRTZ. That is the figure that the President's commission came up with as the annual cost of a computerized telecommunications employment and job vacancy service.

You may remember that they also proposed that it be on a private-not-for-profit basis. So they worked out in quite specific detail.

My recollection, subject to correction, is that that is the annual cost. It is a large bill.

Mr. SCHEUER. Will my colleague yield for a question on this point.

Mr. GOODELL. Surely.

Mr. SCHEUER. Has any cost-benefit analysis been done of this proposal, the \$200 million? It seems to me that in terms of lost manpower days, years, months, that we have been recouping, it might be a tremendously attractive investment.

Secretary WIRTZ. I know Mr. Ruttenberg's knowledge of this will give you more detail than I.

Mr. RUTTENBERG. We had, about 9 months or more ago, entered into a contract with a private corporation called the Auerbach Corp. and the Bureau of Employment Security specifically to look at the problem of how we might put all of the labor area information on an electronic data processing system, exchange it within and between States, and between the States and the Federal Government.

The Auerbach Corp. has come up with its first report. We have now contracted with them for a \$2½ million contract to help us install, on an experimental basis, a program in three States.

In addition, the program provides for the development of an area manpower system in the New York metropolitan area which includes parts of Connecticut and New Jersey. It includes provisions for developing a working relationship with State and local agencies engaged in manpower development and assistance functions. This effort increased the contract costs of \$3¼ million.

We will phase out over a period of time the development of moving to other States as these programs develop. We are engaged in the matching of jobs with men, for example. We are engaged specifically in this contract with the Auerbach Corp. of developing a computable occupational descriptor vocabulary, which is really one of the very difficult problems, of how do you identify the man and his skill and the job and the employer and his requirement, how do you match those with the vocabulary that the computer can use and be consistent between all areas?

This is one of the things that the Auerbach Corp. is helping us develop. While that is being developed simultaneously we are going to move in three States with an experimental electronic data processing