

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 28, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

I want the head of every Federal agency to explore and apply all possible means to

- use the electronic computer to do a better job
- manage computer activity at the lowest possible cost.

I want my administration to give priority emphasis to both of these objectives -- nothing less will suffice.

The electronic computer is having a greater impact on what the Government does and how it does it than any other product of modern technology.

The computer is making it possible to

- send men and satellites into space
- make significant strides in medical research
- add several billions of dollars to our revenue through improved tax administration
- administer the huge and complex social security and medicare programs
- manage a multi-billion dollar defense logistics system
- speed the issuance of G. I. insurance dividends, at much less cost
- save lives through better search and rescue operations

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- the General Services Administration, for the procurement, utilization and disposition of automatic data processing equipment
- the Department of Commerce, for the development of data processing standards and the provision of assistance to agencies in designing computer-based systems
- the Bureau of the Budget, for exercising policy and fiscal control over the implementation of these authorities.

These agencies are seeking actively to put into effect ways for improving and reducing the cost of this huge and complex operation.

In my Budget Message for 1967 I told the Congress of my intent to make sure that this huge investment is managed efficiently.

The Federal Government must give priority attention to

- establishing better and more effective procurement methods
- making fuller use of existing facilities through sharing and joint-use arrangements before acquiring additional equipment
- re-utilizing excess equipment whenever feasible
- achieving, with industry cooperation, greater compatibility of equipment.

I expect all agencies to cooperate fully with the Bureau of the Budget, the General Services Administration, and the Department of Commerce in accomplishing these objectives.

I want the Director of the Bureau of the Budget to report to me on December 31, 1966, and every six months thereafter, on the progress that is being made throughout the Federal Government in improving the management of this very important technology.

