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STATUS REPORT ON DATA CIRCUIT INSTALLATION

A. Planning: The Office of Communications, after reviewing the data distribution study of 10 July 1970, has concluded that there does ^{Not} exist current requirements on which to base the design of a data communications switch to serve computers and remote terminals in the Headquarters Building. As a consequence the DD/S has decided to postpone the so-called "second phase" study for this purpose.

B. Detailed planning for the installation of the data communications network in the Headquarters Building is well underway. Several tough problems have been encountered. These include routing of the horizontal cable runs on the ground floor which is difficult because of congestion in the overhead. The other problem results from the clutter in the electrical closets on the ground and first floors and the fact that the contours of the first and ground floors are not plumb with the tower area of the building. It now appears likely that the trash shutes will be used from the ground to the third floor where the cables will be run horizontally in order to access the electrical closets in the tower area.

C. Costs: When installation work on the data network commences, we will try to develop the work schedule in order to meet current requirements for installation of data circuits. For those installations made prior to installation

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of the network, the cost of these jobs, as in the past, will be billed to the requesting office. Also, looking ahead to the point when the network has been installed, the costs of special lines for non-standard devices and of local runs from distribution frames to remote terminals will also be charged to the requesting office, inasmuch as the funds allotted for the network could not take the cost of these tasks into account.

D. Current Situation: Installation work on lines to serve remote terminals has improved radically when compared with the situation of eight months ago. The Support Directorate offices involved in these installations have applied additional resources to the task -- most recently the Office of Logistics has assigned an engineer as part of the new Headquarters Engineering Branch who coordinates and supervises the Logistics effort in this field. Another factor contributing to the improvement is the replacement of the GSA electricians with contractor help which gives the Agency control over the scheduling and amount of work. The contractor team is gaining experience which will be of great value when they are turned loose on the installation of conduit and cable pulling for the data network. These improvements have taken longer to put in effect than I had hoped, but the picture is quite favorable now. As before, any tip-off on planned requests for installation work would be appreciated.

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