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9 MAY 1977

Mr. D. L. Scantlebury
Director, Financial and General
Management Studies Division
U.S. General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Scantlebury:

This letter responds to your request dated 31 March 1977, for information from this Agency relative to a survey being conducted by the U.S. General Accounting Office entitled, "Survey of The Development and Use of The Automatic Data Processing Standards."

This Agency, in procuring supplies and services necessary for the conduct and maintenance of its operations, adheres to applicable procurement statutes and implementing policy. In the case of ADP standards, the following is an extract from a Delegation of Procurement Authority granted this Agency:

"Within the bounds of security, the procurements effected under the authority of this DPA are subject to the following limitations.

- 2. b. the specific requirements of FPMR 101-32.13 pertaining to Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FPIS PUBS) shall be adhered to,"

As you are aware, this Agency has received broad authority in its organic statute (50 USCA 403(j)) to conduct its affairs in a confidential manner. After review of the questionnaire attached to your letter, I have concluded that the Agency cannot participate in your study without disclosing sensitive classified information.

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I can assure you that we do indeed employ FIPS PUBS standards in our ADP procurements whenever appropriate. Cleared management personnel of the General Services Administration conducted an annual review of this Agency's ADP procurements on 21 and 22 April 1977. It was their conclusion that this Agency is in compliance with the Delegation of Procurement Authority granted it by GSA.

Sincerely,

/s/ John F. Blake

John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration