

EXHIBIT 26

NOTE ON RESEARCH AND STORAGE OF INFORMATION BY NGOS

Computers and punched card equipment offer considerable flexibility in the storage of information for use in subsequent surveys.

Advantages of using Computers

- compact form in which information is stored
 - codes on punched cards (160,000 characters in 40 x 20 x 9 cm)
 - information on magnetic tape (1,000,000 - 20,000,000 characters on tape)
 - information on magnetic disk (about 5,000,000 - 8,000,000 characters per disk)
- speed at which the stored information can be processed
 - punched cards at 1,300 characters per second
 - magnetic tape at up to 120,000 characters per second
 - disks at about 260,000 characters per second
- complexity and flexibility of processing options which can be chosen
- speed at which information, possibly in a different order, on different tapes and/or disks can be combined

What sort of Research can be usefully done by NGOs on Computers?

There are two principal types of research uses:

- information is collected and processed once for a single study
- information is collected and updated for studies at regular intervals or in answer to questions

The most useful applications for computer processing are where:

- there is a very large volume of information to be checked through, e.g. 10,000 meetings with different characteristics to be evaluated
- the volume of information may be much smaller in some cases when the number of calculations to be performed is very great

Summary of Procedure for such Computer Aided Research

- decide very clearly in advance what questions must be answered by the survey
- produce a schedule so that each possible question can be answered by specifying one unique code or combination of codes. The schedule should correspond to the physical limitations of an 80 column card. Into each column one of approximately 64 characters (0 - 9 and A - Z, etc.) can be punched, so that there is a maximum of 80 characters per punched card. Any combination of these characters can of course be chosen.
- examine each item on which the survey is being conducted and fill out one schedule for each according to the codes that have been allocated to describe each variation. The schedule is known as the punch instruction document
- send the collection of schedules to a service bureau where the codes will be punched into 80 column cards on the basis of the schedule design, so that there is one card punched per schedule filled out

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- the cards can now be treated using classical equipment to sort them mechanically into significant groups counting the groups as this is done. The sort would be done on the basis of one or more of the codes (holes) on the punched cards
- alternatively, for more complex surveys, calculations can be performed whilst the cards are being processed on a computer, e.g. the statistical significance of the data, can be determined, percentages, etc. The results will be supplied in printed form
- if a computer is used, the information on the cards can be stored on magnetic tape for later use, in answer to questions relating to the codes already provided.