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Speech at Control Data Luncheon, Adelaide

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN, AT CONTROL DATA
LUNCHEON, ADELAIDE, FRIDAY 25.8.72.

MY PARLIAMENTARY COLLEAGUES, MR. HUGHES, GENTLEMEN:

THANK YOU FOR ASKING ME HERE TODAY TO MARK WHAT IS A
NOTABLE DAY FOR CONTROL DATA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING IS PLAYING AN EVER INCREASING
ROLE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH AUST-
RALIA; SO MUCH SO THAT IT IS NOW TRUE TO SAY THAT JUST
ABOUT ALL THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S SERVICE REVENUE IS
RAISED BY COMPUTERISED BILLING.

COMPUTERS ARE ALSO BEING USED TO PREPARE SALARY CHEQUES,
ON ENGINEERING DESIGN AND IN MANY OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE
AND TECHNICAL TASKS.

2.

THE GOVERNMENT BEGAN USING COMPUTERS SEVEN YEARS AGO WHEN
A CONTROL DATA 3200 SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED AT THE PUBLIC
SERVICE A.D.P. CENTRE IN VICTORIA PLACE TO SERVICE THE
REQUIREMENTS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS.

IN ITS EARLY DAYS, THE CENTRE CONCENTRATED ON REVENUE
RAISING TASKS SUCH AS MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND
LICENCE RENEWALS, WATER RATES AND LAND TAX BILLS.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA CAN ALSO TAKE THE CREDIT FOR BEING THE FIRST
STATE IN THE COMMONWEALTH TO COMPUTERISE ELECTORAL ROLLS,
A DEVELOPMENT TASK UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY BY THE A.D.P. CENTRE
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

THE ROLLS, REGULARLY BROUGHT UP TO DATE, ARE NOW ENTIRELY
MAINTAINED BY THE CENTRE AND THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN SO SUCCESS-
FUL THAT WE WERE ABLE TO SELL IT TO THE COMMONWEALTH FOR THE
MAINTENANCE OF THE COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL ROLLS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

IT WAS NO ACCIDENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT INCREASED THE CAPACITY OF ITS A.D.P. CENTRE IN 1970 WHEN A MORE POWERFUL MACHINE WAS DELIVERED BY CONTROL DATA - A 3500 WITH A MULTI-PROGRAMMING CAPABILITY.

THE ORIGINAL MACHINE WAS ORDERED TO A FIVE YEAR PLAN AND THE PREDICTIONS OF OUR COMPUTER PEOPLE PROVED TO BE CORRECT.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 3500 WAS NOT ONLY LARGER CAPACITY TO TAKE CARE OF AN INCREASING WORK LOAD, BUT THE MULTI-PROGRAMMING CAPABILITY WHICH PERMITTED REMOTE TERMINALS TO BE ATTACHED TO THE COMPUTER.

AS THE NAME IMPLIES, A TERMINAL ALLOWS A USER TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE POWER OF THE COMPUTER FROM A REMOTE PLACE, WHETHER IT BE IN THE NEXT ROOM OR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WAS FIRST TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS NEW ASSET - IN FACT TODAY THEY HAVE TERMINALS AT WALKERVILLE AND NORTHFIELD.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD ALSO HAS A REMOTE TERMINAL TO MAINTAIN PERSONNEL FILES.

SUCH HAS BEEN THE DEMAND FOR COMPUTER POWER THAT I AM ABLE TO ANNOUNCE TODAY THAT THE 3500 IS TO BE REPLACED BY A CONTROL DATA CYBER 73 - THE MOST POWERFUL COMPUTER IN STATE GOVERNMENT SERVICE IN AUSTRALIA.

CONTROL DATA HAS ALREADY DELIVERED THE CYBER TO THE A.D.P. CENTRE, AND IT IS NOW IN THE COURSE OF BEING COMMISSIONED IN ANTICIPATION OF FORMAL ACCEPTANCE NEXT MONTH.

THE NEW COMPUTER HAS A CENTRAL MEMORY OF 65,000 WORDS AND WHEN THREE ADDITIONAL MAGNETIC DISC STORAGE UNITS ARE DELIVERED SHORTLY, THE CENTRE WILL HAVE CAPACITY TO STORE ON-LINE SOME 500 MILLION CHARACTERS OF INFORMATION - THAT'S THE EQUIVALENT OF SOME 80 MILLION WORDS.

THE TOTAL VALUE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IN OUR A.D.P. CENTRE NOW EXCEEDS THREE MILLION DOLLARS.

THIS NEW COMPUTER, WITH ITS LARGE CENTRAL MEMORY AND VERY HIGH SPEED (IT WORKS IN MILLIONS OF OPERATIONS PER SECOND), WILL ENABLE OUR COMPLEX PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED QUICKLY AND MORE ECONOMICALLY.

FURTHERMORE, WITH ITS FACILITY FOR REMOTE TERMINALS, THE SCIENTIST, SURVEYOR OR ENGINEER CAN HAVE VIRTUALLY THE WHOLE

POWER OF THE COMPUTER AT HIS COMMAND WITHOUT HAVING TO GO THROUGH THE TIME CONSUMING DATA PREPARATION PROCEDURES NECESSARY WITH EARLIER MODELS.

THIS INCREASED CAPACITY WILL NOT ONLY ENABLE EXPANDED FACILITIES FOR EXISTING DEPARTMENTAL USERS BUT PERMIT EXTENSION OF DATA PROCESSING TO OTHER AREAS OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY.

ONE OF THESE NEW USERS WILL BE WORKING ON A TASK OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE NOT ONLY TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA BUT TO AUSTRALIA AND THE WHOLE WORLD.

AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE HOSPITALS DEPARTMENT AND CONTROL DATA TO WORK JOINTLY ON A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN THE USE OF COMPUTERS TO MAXIMISE THE RESOURCES OF A HOSPITAL TO PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE PATIENT CARE.

COMPUTERS HAVE BEEN USED FOR SOME TIME IN INDIVIDUAL SECTORS OF MEDICINE AND HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION; HERE IN ADELAIDE FOR EXAMPLE THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCE IS USING A CONTROL DATA COMPUTER TO AUTOMATE CLINICAL LABORATORY TESTS, BUT TO DATE, NOWHERE IN THE WORLD HAS ALL THE KNOWLEDGE BEEN POOLED TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE SERVICE UNDER THE ONE ROOF, SO TO SPEAK.

THAT'S WHAT WE ARE SETTING OUT TO DO HERE IN ADELAIDE. WE ARE IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO MAKE THIS APPROACH BECAUSE OF THE HOSPITAL TO BE BUILT AT FLINDERS UNIVERSITY. AS YOU KNOW, THIS WILL BE THE WORLD'S FIRST TEACHING HOSPITAL TO BE BUILT CONCURRENTLY WITH A UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

THE BASIC RESEARCH WILL COVER THE USE OF COMPUTERS IN:-

8.

- ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, TRANSFERS AND PATIENTS' RECORDS.
- ORDERS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES, I.E. MEDICINES AND X-RAYS
- SPECIALISED MEDICAL FUNCTIONS, I.E. LABORATORY ANALYSIS AND PATIENT MONITORING.

THE HOSPITALS DEPARTMENT WILL MAINTAIN CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SYSTEMS DIVISION OF CONTROL DATA CORPORATION AT LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA. THIS DIVISION IS WORKING ON A RELATED PROJECT FOR AN ESTABLISHED HOSPITAL IN ST. LOUIS.

A SENIOR CONSULTANT FROM THIS CONTROL DATA DIVISION, MR. R.J. BEASON, WHO IS HERE WITH US TODAY, HAS ARRIVED IN ADELAIDE TO WORK FULL TIME ON THE PROJECT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HOSPITALS DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HOPEED THAT IT WILL BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE
OPENING OF FLINDERS HOSPITAL IN 1975.

SIR, I CONGRATULATE YOUR COMPANY ON THE VERY HIGH
TECHNOLOGICAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS WHICH HAVE GONE INTO
THIS PROJECT. IT WILL, I'M SURE, BE OF BENEFIT BOTH TO
THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THANK YOU.