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Issue Paper
Department of Commerce
1978 Budget
Issue #5: Economic Development Administration

Background

In each of the recent annual budgets, the Administration has tried either to limit EDA funding or to terminate the agency. In FY 1973 the Administration requested funding of \$245M and the Congress appropriated \$326M. In FY 1974, the Administration proposed termination of all EDA programs and the enactment of new economic development assistance legislation. In response, Congress established three new EDA programs, based on the Administration's proposed legislation, and continued all of the EDA. Congress appropriated \$270M. In FY 1976 the Administration requested \$314M and the Congress appropriated \$385M.

Since submission of the 1977 budget, four significant events affecting EDA programs occured:

- (1) Congress appropriated \$387M for EDA in 1977—a \$138M increase over the Administration's request of \$249M.
- (2) Authorization for a \$2B Local Public Works "Jobs" program became law over the President's veto.
- (3) The President signed the appropriations bill for the Local Public Works "Jobs" program, administered by EDA, providing \$2B for public works projects.
- (4) The President signed the EDA extension legislation (S.2228), which increased program authorizations by more than \$700M and added new programs.

In view of the above, particularly the signing of the EDA extension legislation, neither Commerce nor the Division recommends any drastic reductions in funding or major assult on EDA. We are both recommending that the President's budget request be consistent with his most recent actions on Local Public Works and EDA legislation. The only major difference between Commerce's recommendations and EGD's is the amount of reduction in the regular EDA public works program that is appropriate due to the enactment of the \$2B Local Public Works program.

Statement of Issue

Should the Department's requested funding level for EDA programs be reduced in light of the \$2B Local Public Work "Jobs" program?

Pros.

- Because there is a substantial overlap between the types of projects eligible for funding under the regular EDA public works program and those eligible under the "Jobs" program, demand for regular public works funds should be sharply reduced.
- Anticipated improvements in the general economic situation should also reduce the demand for regular EDA public works funds.
- Reductions in public works funding could be supported on the basis that EDA has been unable to demonstrate that traditional EDA public works programs are effective in either reducing unemployment in target areas or promoting economic development.
- A lower funding request level, in the past, has helped to hold down the amount of Congressional add-ons.
- EDA technical public works staff is not readily expandable and will be hard pressed to adequately review the projects funded under the "Jobs" program alone.

Cons.

- Program supporters will argue that the regular public works program and the "Jobs" program deal with different types of problems and legislative intent and requirements prevent them from being substituted for one another.
- The Commerce public works request is already \$67M below the 1977 appropriation. The Department may, therefore, argue that the availability of "Jobs" program funds has already been considered.
- Further reduction below the Commerce request for EDA public works programs might be viewed as inconsistent with the President's action in signing the recent EDA extension legislation which provides for increased funding levels.
- Any funding level below the Commerce request, but above zero, may be viewed as rear-guard, arbitrary action that snipes at the outcome of the major confrontation on the Local Public Works program.

Alternatives

- #1. Request EDA funding at the level proposed by the Department (\$273M). (Agency Request)
- #2. Reduce requested funding, primarily for the public works program based on availability of the Local Public Works funds (\$171M). (OMB Recommendation)

Analysis

	1	976	1	977	7	978	1	979	1	980	7	987	7	982
Budget Authority/Outlays (\$ in millions)	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	1 0	BA	0	BA	0
														,
Alt. #1 (Agency Req.) Alt. #2 (OMB rec.)	385 385				273 171		273 234			298 258		294 252		289 252

Agency Request

-	Difference fi	rom Alt.	#1 (Agency Request)	1978 Outlays	1979 Outlays)
(Alt.	#2 (OMB rec.)	-19	-34))

Agency Request: Alternative #1. The Department's request for FY 1978 totals \$273M for EDA programs, \$114M below the FY 1977 funding level. This proposed reduction reflects major decreases in the regular EDA public works (\$66M) and economic adjustment assistance (\$22M) programs as well as smaller reductions in other areas (see Attachment A).

OMB Recommendation: Alternative #2. The Division recommends that funding for the regular EDA public works program be reduced in 1977 and 1978 below the Commerce request. The full \$2B of Local Public Works "Jobs" funds will be obligated in 1977. Because the target groups served by the two programs overlap to a great extent, the availability of Local Public Works funds should sharply reduce the need for the regular EDA public works program. The criteria and purposes of the two programs differ, however, and it may be justifiably argued that, because of this, they are not perfect substitutes for one another. For this reason, we recommend against reducing the regular public works program to zero, but rather advocate that some funding be maintained in the regular program to address public works needs which cannot be "reached" under the Local Public Works program.

While we differ with the $\underline{1978}$ Commerce request for EDA public works, our more significant difference is with their 1977 request. We believe that request ignores the 1977 effect of the Local Public Works

program on the regular 1977 EDA public works funds. We expect heavy 1977 obligations of Local Public Works funds, as does Commerce. We believe, therefore, that the argument on the "substitution" effect must begin with 1977--not in 1978. The argument can be made, we believe, that not all the regular EDA public works funds--appropriated before the Loacl Public Works funds--are now needed and that \$64M can be deferred. This deferral would help obtain a more consistent program direction--from \$163M (1976) to \$104M (1977) to \$75M (1978). Without the deferral, the progression would be \$163M to \$167M to \$100M (Commerce's request.)

Overall, the Division recommends a program level of \$234M for EDA programs in 1978. This is \$153M below the 1977 appropriation and \$39M below the Commerce request. In addition to the changes for public works, the recommendation decreases the Commerce request by \$5M for business loans for trade adjustment assistance and by \$5M for technical assistance grants (see Attachment A).

TOROLIBRAY TO SERVE

SUMMARY

EDA Budget Authority
(\$ in millions)

	1976 Actual	1977 Pres. Budget	1977 Approp/Request	1978 Request	OMB Recommendation
Public Works	162.5	113.3	166.5*	100.5	11.5
Business Development Loans (Trade Adj. Asst.)	55.8 (17.0)	40.0 (13.2)	58.0 (17.0)	50.5 (17.0)	45.0 (12.0)
Planning	12.5	18.7	23.0	22.0	22.0
Technical Assistance (Trade Adj. Asst.)	13.0 (3.0)	6.0	12.5	8.0 (3.0)	2.5
Research	1.3	.4	2.5	1.5	1.5
Evaluation	.4	.1	.5	1.0	1:0
Grants to States	19.8	-0-	20.0	20.0	20.0
Economic Adjustment Assistance (Trade Adj. Asst.)	76.7 (15.0)	45.0 (10.0)	77.0 (15.0)	45.0 (15.0)	45.0 (10.0)
Subtotal (Trade Adj. Asst.)	341.8 (35.0)	223.4 (24.2)	360.0 (35.0)	248.5 (35.0)	148.5 (22.0)
Administration	24.1	25.4	26.7	24.7	22.0
TOTAL	365.9	248.8	386.7	273.2	170.5 FORD

NOTE: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

^{*}EGD recommends deferring \$63.5M of this amount from FY '77 to FY '78.

Issue Paper
Department of Commerce
Domestic and International Business Administration
1978 Budget
Issue #6: Office of Field Operations

Background

DIBA has 43 district field offices and 20 satellite (one-man) offices throughout the U.S. The chief goal of these field offices is to promote exports by (1) inducing new firms to export and (2) aiding established exporters to expand their overseas markets. The export promotion functions of the DIBA field offices include:

- * co-sponsoring introductory export seminars. In FY 1976, DIBA participated in co-sponsoring-along with state departments of commerce, banks, and SBA--some 5,700 of these seminars.
- making personal visits to firms to inform them of their export potential and to "sell" them the Bureau of International Commerce's (BIC's) export services. In FY 1976 DIBA field specialists made 33,000 visits to firms to "sell" services such as subscriptions to DIBA's trade leads bulletin.
- providing personal export counseling to firms. DIBA field specialists provide such counseling during visits to individual firms.

In addition to promoting exports, the field offices also provide some domestic services to businesses. These include:

- co-sponsoring domestic business seminars on such topics as productivity. There were 30 seminars on productivity in FY 1976 reaching an estimated 1,400 people.
- providing business counseling. Business counseling consists of providing information on the use of Census statistics for business purposes and assisting businesses in finding Federal information on such topics as metric conversion, energy conservation and productivity.
- disseminating Census statistics and Commerce publications, and taking orders for the Government Printing Office in those cities where there is no GPO field office outlet.

The Division has been increasingly concerned about the operating efficiency and effectiveness of the DIBA field offices. In response to that concern a zero base review of these offices was conducted in 1976. The major conclusions reached in that review were that:

- The services of the field offices are not highly valued or heavily used by businessmen. For example, a 1974 Harvard University study concludes that less than 1% of U.S. exporters have used DIBA counseling services. Of those that have used them, 74% judged the counseling services to be of "little value" or "not needed."
- The field office personnel lack credibility in the business community. Typical responses from businessmen showed that they felt DIBA field office personnel knew little about the mechanics of exporting and overseas markets.
- The field offices are only marginally effective in achieving their main goal—the expansion of exports. DIBA estimates that \$900M of initial export sales can be attributed to field office activities. The Division's analysis concluded that, in all likelihood, most of these sales would have taken place even in the absence of field office assistance.
- The domestic functions of the field offices are not oriented toward clear goals and are not given high priority in the field offices. We estimate that the field offices allocate far fewer resources to domestic activities than are budgeted.
- * The services of the field offices are generally duplicative of those offered elsewhere in the private and public sector. For example, the functions of the field offices are similar to the services offered by state departments of commerce, Dunn and Bradstreet, the World Trade Information Center, and many banks. The domestic business functions of the field offices duplicate the services of consulting firms, state governmental organizations, and universities.
- The specific responsibilities of the field offices could easily be assumed by other organizations. The DIBA export services could be delivered by organizations, such as chambers of commerce, trade associations, and exporters' associations. The domestic activities of the DIBA field offices can be assumed by the Bureau of the Census depository libraries, GPO's 24 field offices, and trade associations.



Field offices' activities are probably inhibiting the development of export services in the private sector. Two factors support this hypothesis: (1) The field office's export seminars are directed only at disseminating information about Federal but not private sources of export information. (2) The field offices provide their export services at subsidized rates—thereby putting export services' businesses at a competitive disadvantage.

Statement of Issue

Should the number of DIBA field offices be reduced from 43 to 10 and the 20 satellite offices be eliminated?

Pros.

- -- Such a reduction would substantially eliminate duplication of effort by the Federal Government of activities and services that could be provided by the private sector.
- -- It would also reduce the level of Federal involvement in a marginally effective program.
- -- A reduction would provide an opportunity to concentrate the remaining DIBA resources so they could better leverage non-Federal government and private organizations, using them to actually deliver export promotion and business assistance to firms.
- -- Cost savings from this restructuring of DIBA field offices could save an estimated \$7M in FY 1978.
- -- No significant impact on U.S. exporting firms or the level of U.S. export activity would be expected from this reduction.
- -- Eliminating DIBA's responsibility for the distribution of GPO publications and census data would have no significant impact on their availability to the public.
- -- The reductions of this program would also permit a reduction in Federal employment of 274 FTP positions.

Cons.

-- There will be strong opposition to any reduction in field office resources from Commerce, the District Export Councils (organized by DIBA) and the President's Export Council. The latters

has generally advocated any Federal activity which might even marginally increase exports.

- -- There may be some drop off in available export services until other organizations adjust to meet business demands.
- -- A reduction in DIBA field offices may give the impression that the Federal Government is no longer interested in trying to assist domestic firms that are interested in exporting overseas.

Alternatives

- #1. Maintain the present status of the field office structure, and provide for level funding in 1978. (Agency request)
- #2. Streamline the existing field office structure by eliminating the satellite (one-man) offices and reducing the resources of the 43 field offices.
- #3. Reconfigure the field operations by eliminating 33 field offices and the 20 satellite offices and reorienting the activities of the remaining field offices. (OMB recommendation)

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	79	976	79	977	197	7,8	197	79	198	30	198	31	198	32
Budget Authority/Outlays (\$ in millions)	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0	BA	0
Field Operations Program Alt. #1 (Agency Reg.)	1:	10	10	7.0	10	7.0	10	10	3.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	30	. 30
Alt. #2	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Alt. #3 (OMB rec.)	10	10	10	10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Agency Request

Agency Request: Alternative #1. The Department believes that DIBA requires an extensive field structure in order to achieve their objectives. DIBA's objectives are premised on the belief that businessmen will not exploit opportunities for exporting their products without the persuasion and assistance of the

Federal Government. They believe that the field office personnel must take the initiative to make periodic visits to their client firms to "sell" them on the idea of exporting and on DIBA's exporting services.

DIBA also believes that their appropriate role is to provide general business counseling on such topics as productivity, energy conservation, and crimes against business.

OMB Recommendation: Alternative #3. As a result of the Division's review of DIBA's field operations, we are recommending that the activities of the field offices be reoriented, and that 274 positions, 33 of the 43 field offices, and all 20 of the satellite offices be eliminated. The ten remaining field offices, located in the federal regions, would be reduced in size.

DIBA has over 800 cooperating organizations, "multipliers," in the public and private sector, which distribute information on DIBA's export services to business. These organizations include chambers of commerce, state departments of commerce, banks, etc. Under our proposed recommendation it is envisioned that the ten DIBA field offices would concentrate on coordinating the activities of these multipliers rather than providing direct services to exporters. The field office personnel would continue to represent Commerce at local export seminars, and they could continue to handle the inquiries of business representatives who call or visit the field offices. However, field office personnel would no longer make personal visits to firms. We would envisage that the majority of direct contacts would be between the multipliers—rather than the field offices—and the exporters.

This recommendation would have the effect of making the field offices a secondary rather than a primary source of export assistance. This recommendation would eliminate some of the present duplication of effort between the DIBA field and satellite offices and DIBA's multipliers while maintaining a regional point of contact between DIBA and businesses with special needs. By making DIBA a secondary-rather than a primary--source of export assistance, we would be encouraging increased exporter reliance on other export service organizations in state governments and in the private sector.

In the Domestic area we see a minimal role for the ten DIBA field offices involving no more than 25% of the recommended 1978 resources. The domestic activities would include some support for selected programs, such as the industry energy-conservation program of DIBA.

The ten field offices would no longer distribute Census statistics. OMB's Statistical Policy Division does not feel that it is necessary for DIBA to perform this function and concurs in this recommendation. The field offices would also no longer take orders for the Government Printing Office, which has its own field structure.

FY 1 3UDGET Department of Commerce #1. Agency: General Administration

Funding Levels (dollars in millions)

200	46 A	- 60	1 am am m 3
Personn		evels	
1 61 201111		-CACID	

	1976		19	77	1		1978		1976	1	977	197	8
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.			cy Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
B.A.	45.4 13.8 14.1	16.6	47.7 15.8 16.6	57.2 21.2 22.6	57.2 21.2 22.6	57.4 22.2 23.0	57.4 22.2 23.0	56.6 21.4 22.2	995	1,295	1,295	1,317	1,305

Agency Request

The General Administration (G.A.) appropriation provides funding for the overall management of the Department and for direct support for the Secretary in formulating policy and providing advice to the President. In FY 1978, the Commerce Department is requesting increases to improve its programs in the personnel management, ADP systems, and information management areas. The Commerce request would also provide for increased emphasis on energy and environmental policy research, and on DOC participation in international consultations on commodities.

There are two adjustments to the FY 1977 appropriation Tevel which include (1) \$7.5M transferred to this account from the Domestic and International Business Administration (DIBA) to provide direct policy support for the Secretary in the international area, and (2) \$2.1M for the Office of Energy Programs which was transferred out of this account to DIBA.

OMB Recommendation

The Division does not recommend any of the requested increases for departmental management, but does recommend an increase to strengthen the Department's evaluation program.

Commerce has made little or no attempt to reprogram within available GA funds to strengthen its Departmental management activities. We believe that Commerce can reprogram funds from their policy research areas in order to meet high priorities. For example, in FY '78, the Office of International Economic Policy and Research (\$6.2M) will be winding down its largest program—that which supports the Multinational Trade Negotiations. This should free up enough resources to meet the demands in areas where increases are requested.

The Division does recommend increasing the resources of the Office of Evaluation--which reports to the Assistant Secretary for Administration--by \$350K and 10 positions. This will allow Commerce to strengthen its evaluation activities. The Department has requested no increase in this area, but the Division feels strongly that the capability for Departmental level evaluations and agency management evaluation should be significantly increased.

#2. Agency: Bureau of Census (Current Programs)

43.7

		Funding L	evels (d	ollars i								
1976						1978		1976	19	77	1978	
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Total	y Request. In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Reg.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB
P.L. 41.0	44.3	44.3	44.0	44.0	44.9	44.9	44.9	3,959	3,985	-		Recom. 3,993
B.A. 41.5	44.3	44.3	44.0	44.0	44.9	44.9	44 9	(NOTE · 1	Personne	Tavale	shown in	

43.7

43.7

programs.)

Agency Request

0. 38.1

Program increases for the collection of current economic and demographic data include: mandatory work associated with the Trade Act of 1974 (\$293K); revisions in inventory valuation (\$510K); establishment of a methods test panel (\$457K); and the collection of quarterly data on state and local government finances (\$235K). The Trade Act requires correlation of international statistical codes and collection of data on the impact of imports. The revisions to inventory valuation would improve our ability to predict economic changes, such as the recent recession. These revisions have been requested by the Economic Policy Board. The methods test panel will test new approaches and concepts in demographic surveys, primarily the Current Population Survey which provides monthly estimates of income and unemployment. The quarterly data on state and local government finances is needed to reduce errors in the quarterly GNP estimates. Currently this information is collected annually and interpolated.

One new program is requested, the development of social indicators related to the quality of life. This will be a continuing program concentrated on new time series data and correlations of available data to national concerns. This new program also provides for the continuing monthly publication of "Status." The Department is proposing that this new program be started in 1977, using reprogrammed funds and a requested supplemental of \$659K. The 1978 cost of this program is \$306K.

The proposed program increases in 1978 are partially offset by program reductions of \$699K. The reductions include: less frequent construction reports on alterations and repairs; elimination of statistical assistance to state and local governments; discontinuance of bilateral reconciliation of trade data with Canada; and curtailing improvements to the economic census. These program decreases appear reasonable

66

the Census accounts--Current programs, Periodic Censuses, and reimbursable

and will not seriously affect ongoing statistical program. In addition, decreases are assumed for productivity gains and for administrative improvements, both totalling together \$684K, and increases for administrative support, within grade promotions, etc., totaling \$401K.

Collectively, the Department requests a net increase in FY '77 of \$659K and 11 full-time positions, through a supplemental, and a net increase of \$819K and 8 positions for FY '78.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends accepting the Departmental request as submitted. The increases requested are for the most part for activities of high priority to persons outside Census, such as the President's decision to continue publishing "Status" on a monthly basis, the EPB request for inventory valuation improvements and the Secretary's request for quality of life indicators. To offset some of these increases the Department has proposed several reductions in current activities. We believe these decreases to be credible and reasonably achievable. On balance, we believe that the priorities reflected in the Departmental request for Census current programs are valid and the increases requested are justified.

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#3. Agency: Bureau of Census (Periodic Censuses)

Funding	Levels	(dollars	in	millions)	

Personnel Levels (FTP)

19	76		197	77			1978		1976	19	77	19	78
Ac	tual	Pres. Budget	Cong.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
	31.1				52.2 47.4	74.0 74.0	74.0 74.0	67.8 67.8	/Chauma	undan Can			
		42.5		50.0	*	69.4	69.4	63.2	(Shown U	inder ter	isus curr	ent Progr	ams)

Agency Request

Three major cyclical censuses account for most of the requested increase: the 1977 Economic Census (\$9.3M), the 1978 Census of Agriculture (\$5.1M), and the 1980 Decennial Census (\$12M). In addition, major capital expenditures are requested for data processing equipment (\$6.1M).

Proposed reductions are largely the result of cyclical censuses where activity is being reduced. These include the 1974 Census of Agriculture (-\$2M) and the 1977 Census of Governments (-\$2.4M). The other major proposed reduction (-\$2.7M) would convert the registration and voter survey from the current two year cycle to a four year cycle. This conversion will require legislation.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends acceptance of the Departmental request except in the ADP area. The programmatic increases and decreases in the cyclical censuses have been compared to previous experience and appear reasonable. There are two possibilities which could significantly increase the requested levels. First, the estimated cost of the 1978 Census of Agriculture does not contemplate collecting data on farms with gross sales of less than \$1,000. There is a possibility that Congress may alter this assumption. The additional amount which could be required would be between \$250K for a sample survey and \$10M for a complete census. Secondly, the contemplated reduction in the frequency of the registration and voter survey, from two years to four years, may meet substantial Congressional resistance. Thus, the likelihood of obtaining the needed legislation for this change is low.

In the ADP area, the Division recommends leasing most new equipment rather than purchasing. This is also the recommendation of the Information Systems Division. The breakeven point for lease vs. purchase is 1981. This change will substantially reduce outlays in 1978 and 1979 without foreclosing future options for equipment purchase.

FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce #4. Agency: Bureau of Economic Analysis

			Funding 1	Levels (d	ollars i	s in millions)				Personnel Levels (FTP)				
	1976						1978			1976	19	77	1978	
	<u>Actual</u>	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.				Request In Ceiling			June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
B.A.	11.8	14.7 12.5 12.4	12.3	12.6	12.6	13.3	15.9 13.3 12.9	13.3		47,2	514	514	533;	533

Agency Request

Major increases are requested for the development of quality of life measures related to the national economic accounts (\$274K), an expansion of the environmental studies program (\$293K), the preparation and publishing of a balance of payments methodology and historical supplement (\$138K), and expanding the existing data processing facility (\$261K).

The development of quality of life measures is proposed to be started in 1977 through a supplemental request of \$274K. This continuing program is to develop the conceptual framework, the statistical methodology and measures for evaluating changes in the economic and social well-being of the Nation.

Proposed increases for 1978 include: the expansion of estimates of national pollution abatement and control expenditures, including the comparison of emissions data to the cost of abatement and the preparation of a balance of payments methodology publication, to publish in one volume a description of the procedures used for computing the balance of payments. The last time such a volume was published was 25 years ago. This request contemplates four years of work, at which time the project would be completed. The current ADP facility is operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and does not have communications (terminal) capability. It is proposed that a new facility be leased in 1978 and purchased in 1979.



OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends accepting the Departmental request as submitted.

The requested increase for development of quality of life measures represent a first step in substantial improvements and additions to the national accounts. The expansion of the environmental studies program will provide a basis for cost benefit analysis of pollution abatement expenditures by industry and geographic region. The balance of payments methodology publication will provide the only complete description of how the U.S. balance of payments is developed. The historical supplement would provide comparative balance of payments data from 1946 to date using the current methodology. These publications would facilitate international comparability of balance of payments and analysis of historical trends.

The present data processing facility is operating full time and demands are expected to exceed capacity in late 1977. The proposed new system would double the memory and speed as well as have communications capability. The new system would be adequate to meet workload requirements through 1985. The 1978 lease cost is \$261K and the 1979 purchase cost is \$1.6M.

Collectively, the Bureau would receive a 1977 net increase of \$274K, with no increase in full time positions, and a 1978 net increase of \$721K and 19 additional positions.

FY 1978 BUDGET

Department of Commerce

#5. Agency: Economic Development Administration

Funding Levels (dollars in millions)

Personnel Levels (FTP)

1976			977.			1978	1976	19	77	197	18			
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Req.	OMB Recom.	Agenc Total	y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency . Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency	OMB Recom.		
P.L. 366 B.A. 385 0. 282	249 249 291	387 387 309	387 387 309	323 387 308	273 273 306	253 253 306	234 171 287	760	815	768	745	680		

Agency Request

The Department requests a funding level of \$273M for FY 78. The Department also requests an increase of 124 full-time positions in the FY 77 ceiling and proposes a decrease of 70 positions in FY 78.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends deferral of \$64M in FY77 and a program level of \$234M in FY 78. A personnel increase in FY 77 of 77 full-time positions and a decrease in 1978 of 88 positions is recommended, in line with recommended program levels.

See Issue Paper #5.



1978 BUDGET

#6. Agency: Department of Commerce
Regional Action Planning Commissions

_		Funding	Levels (d	lollars i	n million	is)			Personne	l Levels	(FED)	
	Disco		977		1978			1976	Tel some	T Levels		
	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
,	42.2	63.5 63.5	66.7	66.7 63.5	44.2	44.2	39.5	56	89	89	91	90

39.5

59.1

Agency Request

1976

Actual

P.L. 60.8 B.A. 64.1

0. 62.6

39.3

59.1

59.1

59.1

52.0

The Department's request for FY '78 is essentially the same as the President's FY '77 budget, except for an additional \$2M to continue funding two new Commissions which are to be established in 1977. The request would provide \$14M for supplemental grants, \$24M for technical assistance grants, and \$7M for administration of the Commissions. Supplemental grants are predominately given to local governments for decreasing the local matching share of other Federal public works type grants. Technical assistance grants are made to both State and local governments for planning, economic development analysis and similar "non-hardware" type uses.

44.2

52.0

The Department is also requesting personnel increases of 29 positions in FY '77 as a result of Congressional add-ons and two positions in FY '78 for the Office of Regional Coordination to handle the two new Commissions and provide for additional program evaluation.

OMB Recommendation

In both 1976 and 1977 the Administration requested funding similar to that now proposed by the Department. In both years the Congress increased funding for the Commissions to the \$64M level, increasing funding for all elements of the program. The Division's recommendation would provide for continued funding for all elements of the RAPC program at the FY '77 appropriation level, except for supplemental grants. We believe that supplemental grants are unnecessary to promote interstate cooperation -- the primary purpose of the Commissions. Since only four of the nine Commissions have large supplemental grant efforts this reduction is less likely to raise objections from all participating Governors. It also focuses the debate on the value of the supplemental grants rather than on the overall level of funding for the Commissions. Terminating the supplemental grant program reduces FY '78 funding for RAPC, \$24M below the FY '77 appropriation level.

The Division also recommends approval of the 1978 request for one additional position for evaluation purposes and denial of the second additional position (a supergrade) as being unnecessary. For 1977, we recommend approval of the requested increase in ceiling of 29 additional full-time positions, 14 for the two new Commissions and 15 to be distributed among the existing Commissions.

1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce

#7. Agency: Domestic and International Business Administration

1976		Fund	ling Leve	(dollar	s in mil			714111	Personne		(FTP)	
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agend	1978 Cy Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom	1976 June 30 Actual	Agency	OMB		78 OMB
P.L. 66 B.A. 63 O. 64	64 63 59	64 63 59	59 58 58	59 58 58	58 58 58	58 58 58	47 47 47	1,816	Req. 1,604	Recom. 1,592	Req.	Recor 1,250
Agency Requ	lest											

The objective of DIBA is to strengthen the economy by promoting progressive business policies and sound Government policies affecting business. In FY 1978 DIBA is proposing a series of increases and reductions which net to a base reduction of \$143K.

The reductions include: reducing publications activities (\$125K), elimination of the excess foreign property program (\$ 55K), closing the Sydney Trade Center (\$ 425K), eliminating three trade fairs (\$ 160K), and a proportionate decrease in administrative costs (\$24K). The increases include: expansion of the foreign buyers program (\$115K), expansion of the industry energy conservation program (\$173K), and establishment of a materials and equipment priorities program which would implement the Energy Policy and Conservation

There are two adjustments to the FY 1977 appropriation level which include (1) \$7.5M transferred from DIBA to General Administration to provide direct policy support for the Secretary in the international area, and (2) \$2.1M transferred into DIBA along with the Office of Energy Programs.

OMB Recommendation

The Division believes the proposed program reductions are reasonable and recommends accepting them.

We do not recommend any increases for implementation of the EPCA. Under this Act businesses are eligible for priority ratings to insure access to building materials for energy related projects. This Act has been in force approximately one year and as yet no firm has requested a priority rating for any energy projects. The Division believes that if requests are forthcoming in FY 1978, this can be adequately handled by DIBA

The Division recommends terminating direct Federal funding of the Foreign Buyers Program. This wiresult in a \$288K savings in B.A. in FY 1978. The objective of this program is to attract foreign buyers to selected domestic trade shows. Currently the sponsors of the domestic trade shows pay no fee for this Government service. We believe that since the participants in trade shows benefit from the service, the trade show sponsors should be willing to pay all costs which the Government incurs in providing the service. The fees which DIBA would collect would be deposited in a DIBA Trust Fund and would be available to continue to finance the Foreign Buyers Program.

The Division recommends DIBA's proposed increase in the industry energy conservation program, which we believe could result in a significant positive reduction in industries' energy consumption. We are also recommending the elimination of the Office of Energy Program's policy activities. This would result in a net decrease of \$277K for the Office of Energy Programs. The Secretary's office has assumed the lead role in the development of Commerce's energy policies and there is no apparent need for DIBA involvement in this area.

In addition, we are recommending a series of base reductions, as a result of a review of DIBA's programs. We are proposing the reductions in the following programs:

- . In-Store Promotion program (\$250K). This program provides, to foreign department stores, capital with which to advertise American made goods. There is little economic justification for the Government to assume the costs of advertising U.S. exports. DIBA considers the In-Store Promotion Program to be of low priority. We are therefore recommending its termination.
- "Industry Desks" (\$350K). Discussions with the Federal users of the analyses performed by the industry desk analysts have led to the conclusion that the analysts have not produced high quality work. Until the Department is willing to make an effort to upgrade the level of work from this program, we do not believe that the Industry Desks program can make effective use of current resources. We are therefore proposing reducing the resources of this program by 7% in FY 1978.
- Foreign Trade Fairs (\$475K). In FY 1976, OMB directed Commerce to implement a full-cost-recovery fee policy for DIBA's export services. The fees collected for the export services are deposited in DIBA's Trust Fund and are available for financing the operating expenses incurred in providing the export services. The proposed reduction in the direct appropriation of \$475K will move DIBA toward their goal of financing all possible operating expenses of their export services through their trust fund. The proposed reduction represents 21% of the FY 1977 appropriation for trade fairs and 3% of the FY 1977 appropriation for all DIBA export services.
- Field Operations (\$7.5M). We are recommending the elimination of 33 field offices and 20 satellite (one-man) offices from DIBA's field operations. (See issue paper #7).

As a consequence of the above base reductions, we are also recommending reducing the funding for DIBA administrative activities by \$1.5M.

#8. Agency: Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE)

-			Fundir	ng Levels	(dollar	s in mil	lions) .		Personnel Levels (FTP)					
	1976								1976	197	7	70	378	
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong.	Agency Req.			cy Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	
P.L. B.A. 0.	50	50 50 55	50 50 55	58 50 55	58 50 55	53 50 55	53 50 55	53 50 55	202	206	206	206	206	
						1						. ;		

Agency Request

Commerce has requested \$50M for 1978, which is the same budget authority level as appropriated in 1977. It does represent however a \$5M reduction in program level since \$8M in funds were carried forward from the transition quarter into 1977.

The 1978 request for program funding includes \$37.8M in direct contracts for approximately 275 organizations which provide primarily management and technical assistance to minority businesses; \$2.4M in direct grants to further develop organizations in State governments in support of minority businesses; \$1.6M for research and developments projects; and \$11.3M for program operations and management.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends accepting the funding and staffing levels for OMBE as requested by Commerce for FY 1978.

In March 1976, OMB completed a comprehensive study of the minority enterprise programs of OMBE and SBA. A major recommendation of this study is that OMBE give priority emphasis to increasing the non-Federal market for minority firms. OMBE is preparing plans to focus its efforts through funded organizations and the National Minority Purchasing Council to develop finance, procurement, and marketing opportunities for minority firms in the non-Federal sector.

OMBE intends to implement a new planning evaluation system which will analyze the change in gross receipts of OMBE-assisted minority firms. Other evaluation projects include the testing of (1) the consolidation of different types of OMBE-funded organizations into a "one-stop center", (2) the use of a cost-plus-incentive-fee contract to fund business assistance organizations, and (3) the implementation of OMBE client fees for standard business assistance services.

Commerce has recently submitted draft legislation to (1) establish a Minority Business Administration in Commerce, (2) add an assistant Secretary for this new agency, and (3) authorite the appropriation of \$100M for each of fiscal years 1978, 1979 and 1980. We anticipate major disagreement with Commerce in developing the appropriate functions for the proposed agency.

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FY 19 SUDGET Department of Commerce #9. Agency: U.S. Travel Service

				lollars i	n million	s)		Per	sonnel Le	vels (FT	P)	
1976		197	77	1		1978		1976		77	197	78
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Total	Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Reg.	OMB Recom.
P.L. 12.4 B.A. 12.8 0. 11.5	12.2 12.2 11.6	14.5 14.5 13.5	13.5 13.5 13.5	13.5 13.5 13.4	13.9 13.9 14.1	13.9 13.9 14.1	13.9 13.9 14.1	110	127	127	127	127

Agency Request

For FY '77 the Department is proposing the rescission of \$1M of congressional add-ons; \$500K of a \$750K add-on in the international area and \$500K of a \$1.5M add-on for a domestic program.

The Department is proposing two program changes for 1978: (1) increases in the amount of \$279,000 to cover the cost of inflation, and (2) the elimination of the multi-lingual receptionists program (-\$307,000). The increases are needed to cover increases in the cost of publishing information materials both in the U.S. and abroad, and placing advertisements in print media. The reduction, which is a major change in the international area for 1978, will eliminate the program which currently funds multi-lingual receptionists to assist foreign tourists arriving at major ports of entry during the peak summer tourist season.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends accepting the proposed rescissions for FY '77.

The Division recommendation for FY '78 provides for continued funding of the international tourism program as requested by the Department, and the second year of a new domestic tourism program. The Division accepts the proposed \$307K base reduction in the multi-lingual receptionists program. This approach was proposed by USTS to the Congress in FY 1977 as a way to reprogram to cover the cost of a domestic tourism program. There was no strong congressional reaction to the proposal—the reprogramming was, however, unnecessary since \$1.5M in funding was added by the Senate for a domestic program.

OMB has been strongly opposed to a domestic tourism promotion program in USTS based on the belief that this is an unnecessary and unjustifiable use of Federal funds. The Department's proposal for FY 1978 would utilize \$1M for a program focused on research analysis (\$190K), media services (\$60K), and advertising and promotion (\$750K). The Division recommends continuing the \$1M domestic program, but only on the basis that the funds will be focused on broad policy development and research analysis.

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#10. Agency: NOAA/Weather and Atmospheric Activities

Funding	Levels	(dollars	in	mill	ions)

Personnel Levels (FTP)

1976		197	77			1978		1976	1.9	77	197	'8
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agend Total	y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	
P.L. 317 B.A. 316 0. 308		344 344 320	344 344 337	344 344 337	366 366 336	366 366 336	352 366 340	6,705	6,995	6,775	7,108	6,794

Agency Request

For FY 1977 Commerce has requested for weather and atmospheric activities an increase of 327 in FTP personnel over the 1977 budget ceiling.

In FY 1978 Commerce is requesting for new or expanded weather and atmospheric related activities a total of \$366 million--a 6% increase over the 1977 funding level. The request includes \$17.5M in reduced program costs and \$39.9M in adjustments to base and new or expanded programs.

Commerce has requested the additional funding to improve public and specialized weather forecasts and warning services. Commerce would also resume NOAA's hurricane modification experiment, Project Stormfury and expand climate, stratospheric, ocean and atmospheric, and world weather research and development activities. NOAA's program of satellite coverage of environmental events would be continued.

OMB Recommendation

<u>In 1977</u> the Division's recommendation would allow NOAA to convert full-time personnel now in temporary positions to permanent status.

In 1978 all of NOAA's proposed reductions--except for a \$1 million deferral item for the Global Atmospheric Research Program (GARP)--would be accepted. The Division's proposed allowance of \$352--a 2% increase over 1977 program level--would provide \$25 million for adjustments to base, limited expansion of public weather forecast and warning services, continuation and expansion at lower funding levels of research activities, and continuation of the satellite program. This allowance would not provide for the expansion of specialized weather services and implementation of project Stormfury.

See Issue Paper #3.

#11. Agency: NOAA/Marine Programs

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Funding Loyale (dollars in millions)

134

139

134

			runuing L	EACIS LO	OTTUTO T	11 11111111111							
	1976		19	977			1978		1976 1977			1978	
		Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.			y Request In Ceiling		June 30 Actual	-	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
P.1	117	124	141	132	132	160	160	147	2,213	2.653	2,313	2.720	2,335

151

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Agency Request

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For marine programs in 1977 Commerce has requested an increase of 453 personnel in full time permanent ceiling over the 1977 budget ceiling. NOAA has requested—in addition to conversion of temporary personnel into permanent status—additional FTP personnel ceiling increases to resolve personnel ceiling problems and carry out additional extended jurisdiction efforts added by Congress for 1977. Commerce is also proposing to defer until 1978 the construction of two fisheries research ships (\$7.5 million) and implementation of an underwater ocean laboratory program (\$1.5 million).

For 1978 Commerce has proposed \$2.2 million of program reductions and--including adjustments to base--has requested \$19 million for new and expanded marine related activities as follows: (1) marine fisheries management and conservation (\$8M), (2) Sea grant (\$2M), (3) ecosystems analysis and ocean dumping, (\$5M) and (4) marine technology (\$4M).

Commerce believes that a 7% increase in 1978 budget authority over the 1977 level is necessary to carry out its various responsibilities such as implementing the Fishing Conservation and Management Act of 1976, protecting further endangered species and fishing habitats, and resolving marine related problems through the Sea Grant program. In addition Commerce believes that its ocean ecosystem and dumping studies should be expanded to develop better baseline data for long term monitoring and to address special problems with ocean dumping at new sites. In the area of deep seabed minerals, Commerce argues that it should expand not only its environmental activities but should also further develop the related ocean technology in order to be in a firm position to assist private industry development of these resources.



Personnel Levels (FTP)

OMB Recommendation

<u>In FY '77</u> the Division accepts the Commerce recommendation that new ship construction be deferred but recommends that the funds for the ocean lab be proposed for rescission.

For 1978 the Division has accepted all of Commerce's proposed reductions except for the <u>deferral</u> of the Columbia River hatching pollution abatement facilities development. The recommended funding level allows NOAA sufficient expansion of its fisheries activities. The recommendation does <u>not</u> allow for the initiation of new ocean dumping research projects but NOAA could carryout national ecosystem monitoring. Likewise, the recommendation does not allow for initiation of new marine minerals activities but does permit NOAA to begin environmental monitoring of deep seabed mining.

See Issue #4.

#12.

Agency: NOAA/Coastal Zone Management and Energy Impact Assistance

	-		Funding L	evels (d	lollars i	n million		Personnel Levels (FTP)					
	1976		19	77			1978			1977		1978	
	<u>Actual</u>	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agenc Total	y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual		4 4	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
P.L B.A O	. 18	23 23 17	22 18 15	199 195 102	134 130 66	260 260 175	0 0	164 164 100	37	139	60	139	60

Agency Request

Commerce has requested an FY 1977 budget supplemental of \$177 million and an FY 1978 increase to \$260 million to implement the provisions of the recently enacted Coastal Zone Management Act amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-370).

Commerce believes that in order to assure that all States develop and implement coastal zone management programs additional Federal assistance at 13% higher Federal match rates should be provided. Likewise, in order to assist States in meeting the impacts of coastal energy related activities, and assure their cooperation in the development of energy resources, Commerce believes that the energy impact fund should be front ended, i.e. maximum amount made in loans based on full projections of new development and unit cost.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommendation would maintain current funding levels and policies for coastal zone management programs. See Issue paper 22.

The Division recommends that the energy impact fund be funded but at a moderate level which encourages greater participation by local areas in fund new essential infrastructure requirements. No funding for new categorical energy impact related grants is recommended.

See Issue paper 2b.



#13. Agency: NOAA/Mapping, Charting, and Surveying Programs

-			Funding I	_evels (d	lollars i	n million		Personnel Levels (FTP)					
1	1976		19	977			1978		1976	10	77	1978	
Ac	ctual	Pres. Budget	Cong.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agenc Total	y Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	1 4		Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
P.L. B.A. 0		53 53 52	53 53 53	53 53 57	53 53 57	58 58 51	58 58 51	54 54 53	1,473	1,573		1,602	1,534

Agency Request

In 1977 Commerce has requested an end of year ceiling increase of 110 full time permanent personnel over the 1977 budget ceiling level. The additional ceiling requested for 1977 would allow for the conversion of 40 personnel currently in other than permanent positions to permanent status and add 67 personnel to replace necessary permanent personnel reprogrammed to other areas.

In 1978 Commerce has requested -- in addition to base adjustments of \$500K--anincrease of \$5.5 million to:

- ost a total of \$4.3M over 5 years; Commerce projects that the present manual system for aeronautical charts is now near capacity and will be unable to met the projected increase in total work by 1982, identified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the National Aerospace System (NAS) unless it is automated;
- Relevel and readjust the National Vertical Control Network (\$2.7 million) which would cost a total of \$20M over a seven year period. The National Vertical Control Network serves as the primary reference system for marine boundary surveys, for engineering surveys on the construction of power plants, pipelines, and highways, and for mapping programs of the Federal Government and State and local governments. An estimated 80% of the network is no longer accurate due to crustal movements; and
- ° Improve shipboard maintenance of electronic equipment (\$1.9 million).

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As a part of the FY 1978 request Commerce is proposing to discontinue marine boundary surveys (\$1.5M) done in support of 200 mile extended fisheries jurisdiction.

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OMB Recommendation

The Divisions recommendation would allow NOAA sufficient ceiling in 1977 to convert full-time personnel in other than permanent positions to permanent status. The remaining activities for which increased ceiling has been requested could be met adequately through contracting and use of temporary personnel. NOAA's mapping, charting, and surveying activities are proposed for consolidation with a new civilian mapping, charting, and surveying agency. Pending the outcome of OMB's reorganization study the Division recommends that funding for the readjustment of the National Vertical Control Network and the implementation of an automated mapping system be delayed.

The Division's recommendation for 1978 does provide for continuation of the base program and for implementation of the program to improve shipboard electronic equipment maintenance. The improved maintenance of this equipment will increase the productivity of NOAA's vessels. The Division also recommends accepting the proposed reduction in extended jurisdiction surveys. Accuracy at the 200 mile boundary is not necessary since most fishing occurs much closer to the shoreline.

FY 1978 BUDGET

#14. Agency: Department of Commerce NOAA/Program Direction and Construction

	-		Funding !	_evels (c	lollars i	n millions	;)			Personne	Levels	(FTP)	
	1976			377 :		1978				1077			
	<u>Actual</u>	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
P.L. B.A. 0	. 26 . 27 26	28 29 27	29 29 28	29 29 28	29 29 28	45 45 32	30 30 27	28 28 28	931	1,043	941	1,079	941

Agency Request

 $\frac{\text{In 1977}}{\text{ceiling}}$. The additional ceiling in $\frac{1977}{\text{personnel}}$ would allow NOAA to convert other than permanent personnel into permanent status and additional FTP personnel to meet various administrative needs.

In 1978 Commerce has requested a funding increase of \$16M over the 1977 appropriation level for overall NOAA management functions (+\$1.8M) and to begin consolidation of NOAA operations at the Sand Point site in Seattle, Wash. (\$14.5M). The Sand Point request is over ceiling.

NOAA has recently completed development of a 5 year construction plan for Sand Point with a total projected cost of \$84M. The site will include docking facilities for NOAA research vessels. NOAA must find a new home for its west coast fleet by 1983, since it will be required by then to vacate its currently leased space.

OMB Recommendation

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The Division's recommendation for 1977 would allow NOAA to convert full-time personnel in other than permanent positions to permanent status.

Although some of the management initiatives proposed by NOAA in 1978 appear worthwhile, it is not apparent why the higher priority items cannot be accomplished through reprogramming. No increase in FY 1978 is recommended. Before approval is given to initiate the \$84 million Sand Point consolidation, a more thorough review of the plan is necessary. OMB has just received Commerce's plan and has not yet had an adequate opportunity to evaluate it. The Division recommends not including funding for Sand Point development in the budget at this time until a thorough evaluation can be completed.

#15. Agency: Fire Administration

Funding Levels (dollars in millions)

Personnel Levels (FTP)

1976		197	77			1978		1976	19	77	70	78
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		y Request In Ceiling	OMB	June 30 Actual			Agency Req.	
B.A. 8.7	10.2	12.2	17.2	17.2	15.5	15.5 15.5 21.1	13.6	59	92	92	126	104

Agency Request

The Department is requesting a one time supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$5,000,000 in 1977 to acquire and remodel a facility for the National Academy for Fire Prevention and Control. As required by the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, a Site Selection Board was appointed by the Secretary in February 1976. The Board has recommended, and the Secretary has selected, the Marjorie Webster College site in Northwest Washington, D.C. as the location for the National Fire Academy.

The Department is also requesting program increases amounting to \$3,466K for the Department's fire programs in 1978, including the programs of the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration (NFPCA) (\$283K), the Fire Research Center at the National Bureau of Standards (\$553K), the National Fire Academy (\$2,035K), and the National Fire Data Center (\$595K). These increases are partially offset by program reductions amounting to \$421K. These include reduction of Federal interagency coordination of fire related activities, discontinuance of NFPCA's formal technology transfer program, and termination of advisory committee support.

OMB Recommendation

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The Division recommends \$5M in supplemental funding for purchase of the Marjorie Webster site. The Department has made an effort to hold the cost down below the \$10M authorized level. The site appears to be adequate and given its location and orientation toward classroom activities will avoid possible future moves to do on-site fire fighting training. If we forego purchase of the Marjorie Webster site at this time, it will likely be sold to another prospective purchaser. This would reopen the selection process once more and, given the choices, could lead to selection of a more expensive site in 1979.

The Division recommends limiting program increases for the Fire Administration in FY 1978. The recommendation provides for level funding of the fire R&D program at a \$7.1M base level and no increases for general administration activities. The proposed reductions have been accepted.

Recommended program increases include \$1,200 for the Academy for course development and technical assistance to the States (this is \$835K less than requested and reflects reductions in the number of course packages to be developed and the amounts available for reimbursing the expenses of students attending the Academy). A recommended increase for the Fire Data Center in the amount of \$500K will support development of a national fire data base.

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FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce #16. Agency: Patent and Trademark Office

			Funding I	Levels (d	Personnel Levels (FTP)								
	1976		13	977			1978		1976	10	77	1978	
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		y Request . In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB
P.L	. 85	87	87	87	87	87	87	87	2,725	2,694	2,694	2 770	Recom. 2,699
B.A	. 85	86	86	86	86	: 80	80	86			- 1 -	29//0	2,000
0	. 84	86	86	86	86	81	81	87					

Agency Request

The PTO disposes of about 100,000 patent applications and 38,000 trademark applications per year. The PTO is requesting 46 additional ceiling positions in FY 1977 and an increase of 50 positions and \$1.8M in FY 1978 in order to increase their corps of patent examiners. This request is based upon PTO's forecast that they will receive, in 1977 and 1978, more patent applications than they would be able to dispose of in a processing time that continues to move toward their 18 month goal.

The PTO is also requesting increased funding for implementation of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (\$.5M), and to lease a new computer system (\$.8M).

Finally, PTO is proposing to establish a fund which would enable them to finance customer services through fees and, consequently, to reduce their B.A. by \$6.6M.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends the requested increase of 46 FTP positions in FY 1977 for the Patent Examining Corps. This will allow for the conversion of full time employees now in temporary positions to permanent positions.

We believe that PTO will be able to continue to reduce their application backlog in FY 1978 without additional funding. Our analysis concludes that PTO's estimate of its FY 1978 resource underestimates the level of productivity of its patent examiners.

The Division also does not recommend any increase for implementation of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The treaty is expected to be ratified by the signatory nations in 1978, but this process is highly subject to slippage. Once the Treaty is fully ratified, we would then propose forwarding a request for funding.

The Division does recommend an increase of \$611K and 5 positions in FY 1978 for upgrading PTO's computer capability. The PTO should be able to absorb the balance of their requested increase for computer upgrading within their base program. This increase will enable the PTO to further automate their operation, especially in the trademark process, which should produce future resource savings. OMB's Information System Division has asked for a detailed plan for use of these computer funds before PTO enters into any contract.

We also recommend rejecting Commerce's request to submit legislation which would enable PTO to retain the fees it collects for its customer services, thereby reducing the need for direct budget authority to cover these services. BRD advises against setting up such a fund as it would reduce the Division's control over this program. The Secretary's office has indicated that they will be working with PTO to assess the possibility of contracting out PTO's customer service operations, which would preclude the necessity for such a fund. Pending completion of this, the division does not believe that further action should be taken. Our recommendation, therefore includes the budget authority of \$6.6M for PTO customer services.



FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce #17. Agency: National Bureau of Standards

			Funding !	Levels (d	Personnel Levels (FTP)								
	1976		179	977		1978			1976	1977		1978	
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom.	June 30 Actual		OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
P.L. B.A. 0.	115 62 71	119 66 71	119 66 71	121 66 71	. 121 66 71	, 122 72 72	- 122 - 72 - 72	117 67 67	. 3,097	3,088	.3,088	3,141;	3,139

Agency Request

The objective of NBS is to provide the basis for a system of standards for physical quantities, materials, and technological devices and systems. Commerce is requesting for NBS, program increases of \$4.5M and program decreases of \$3.1M, and increase adjustments to base of \$4.3M, which net to a total agency increase of \$2.4M.

The requested funding provides for increases for the following programs: non-destructive testing (\$.3M); laboratory accreditation (\$.8M); nuclear safeguards (\$1.0M); computer security (\$.4M); laboratory equipment modernization (\$.6M). The Commerce request also includes a \$1.4M increase for eliminating safety hazards in the laboratory space used for fire research.

The proposed NBS budget provides for discontinuing the following programs: flow measurement (\$.6M), dimensional metrology (\$.4M), humidity measurements (\$.4M), electromagnetic measurements (\$.5M), metallurgical materials (\$.5M), polymeric materials (\$.3M), and building technology (\$.5M).

The adjustments to base include a proposed transfer in FY 1977 of \$2M from FEA to the NBS energy appliance labelling program base.

OMB Recommendation

The Division does not recommend accepting \$200K of the NBS proposed reduction in building technology. We believe that NBS should continue its role as liason between the 40 Federal agencies involved in the construction of buildings. The Office of Federal Procurement Policy would object to terminating this NBS function.

The Division recommends accepting all of the other NBS proposed decreases. Some of the programs fall within the responsibility of other agencies and if they are of high priority, could be funded by those agencies. The responsibility for the remaining programs to be eliminated could be assumed by the private sector.

The Division does \underline{not} recommend accepting the proposed increase of \$1M for a nuclear safeguards program. NRC and ERDA have the \underline{lead} in this area. Funds will be earmarked within their budgets for obtaining reimbursable work from NBS.

We also do not recommend accepting the NBS proposal to transfer \$2M from FEA for energy appliance labelling. We further recommend reducing the NBS base by the \$1M which had funded the voluntary energy labelling program before the enactment of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. The EPCA clearly made FEA the lead agency in the energy labelling area.

Information Systems Division does not recommend any increase for NBS's computer security program. They believe that NBS has adequate resources in this area for their high priority programs.

The remaining recommended increases are for non-destructive testing, laboratory accreditation, laboratory equipment modernization, and renovation of the fire research laboratory which are judged to be meritorious.



FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce

#18. Agency: National Technical Information Service

Actual Budget Approp. Req. Recom. Total In Ceiling Recom. Actual Req.	el Levels	Personnel Level	(FTP)
Actual Budget Approp. Req. Recom. Total In Ceiling Recom. Actual Req.	977	1976 1977	1978
B.A. 1.7 1.2 1.2 1.2 1.4 1.4 1.2 363 409	OMB Recom. 409	June 30 Agency OMB Actual Req. Recom.	Agency OMB Req. Recom. 425 425

Agency Request

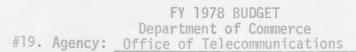
NTIS collects and promotes the availability of documents, film, patents and magnetic tapes produced in the course of government activities. In FY 1976, NTIS sold 3 million documents, most of them to the public. About 93% of NTIS activities are financed through a trust fund. The direct appropriation is used to fund SLUC charges, purchases of capital equipment, and the promotion of government patents.

An increase of \$345K is requested for an industrial engineering study of NTIS operations and for screening government patents in order to identify those with high commercial value. The request is partially offset by \$150K in non-recurring costs, attributable to equipment purchases in FY '77.

OMB Recommendation

The Division recommends that NTIS be allowed the increase of \$170K for the promotion of government patents. Most government patents are not developed for commercial use because firms have no mechanism for protecting their investment in such development. The NTIS program would provide licenses for a limited time to those firms who will commit themselves to developing government patents. Patent licences could produce substantial royalties to the Federal Government.

The Division recommends that NTIS not be allowed an increase in their direct appropriation for the industrial engineering study. NTIS has made good progress toward their goal of self-sufficiency. We believe that the NTIS is now capable of absorbing the costs of such special studies of their operations, through their trust fund account.



			, runc	ing Leve	15 (dol1	ars in mi	llions)		P	ersonnel	Levels	(FTP)	
	1976		197	77 .		19	78		1976	197	7	1978	
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom	Agency Total	Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom	June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom
P.L. B.A.		15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.9	15.9	15.9	247	264	264	268	264
-		15.4 1.4 1.3	7 8	7 0	15.4	15.9	15.9 1.7 1.8		247				268

Agency Request

The Office of Telecommunications (OT) is the chief agency within the Executive branch for conducting telecommunications research. About 90% of the OT program consists of reimbursable work, chiefly for the Office of Telecommunications Policy and the Department of Defense.

In FY 1978, OT is requesting increases in two programs: electromagnetic spectrum use (\$200K) and satellite communications system policy development (\$50K).

OMB Recommendation

The Division does not recommend the proposed increases for OT.

The Division has proposed, in conjuction with its review of the FY 1978 budget request of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, that OTP's reimbursable research funding be transferred to OT. Under the recommendation OT, would assume full responsibility for day to day management of the frequency spectrum.

Since OT will have direct management control over what is now their reimbursable funding from OTP, we believe they will be able to reprogram to meet their priorities.



FY 1978 BUDGET

Department of Commerce
#20. Agency: Maritime Administration: Ship Construction Differential Subsidy

Pres. Cong. Agency OMB Agency Request OMB June 3 Actual Budget Approp. Req. Recom. Total In Ceiling Recom. Actual P.L. 85 247 247 214 155 242 175 190 (Show	Personnel Levels (FTP)											
1976	19	977			1978			1976	70	77	1978	
<u>Actual</u>								June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.
	 -	214	-	135	68	-			under MAI		ntions and	

Agency Request

The 1978 ship construction program is based on an appropriation request of \$135,000,000 together with funds appropriated from prior years. The Department's request reflects the current upturn in shipbuilding demand. The resurgence of interest in construction is now directed away from oil tankers and huge bulk ships and toward more specialized vessels, such as containerships, liquefied natural gas (LNG) ships and lighteraboard-ship (LASH) ships. The proposed program includes 12 new ships in 1977 and seven in 1978.

OMB Recommendation

MARAD's inability to accurately forecast demand for new ship construction contracts (and hence subsidies) has resulted in substantial carryover of unobligated, indefinite B.A. in recent years. Latest figures show \$346M in unused BA available at the start of FY'77; since the time of the above agency submission one construction contract for 2 ships has slipped from the transition quarter into FY 77. Thus the agency program now calls for 14 ships in fiscal year 1977 and seven in 1978. Two liquefied natural gas (LNG) ships for FY 78 have been presented by the Department as over ceiling.

The Division's recommendation for FY '78 provides for no new Budget Authority for ship construction subsidies pending completion of a study of maritime subsidy policy.

See Issue Paper #1.



FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce #21. Agency: Maritime Administration - Operating Differential Subsidy

		Funding Levels (dollars in millions)									Personnel Levels (FTP)					
	1976		19	77		1978				1976	19	77	1978			
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agend Total	cy Request . In Ceiling	OMB Recom.		June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.		
P.L. B.A.	278 278 301	338 338 404	338 338 388	366 366 388	366 366 388	330 330 386	330 330 386	247 247 320			under MA		ations and			

Agency Request

The request for operating-differential subsidies will provide for 189.1 ship-years of operation in the regular U.S. foreign trade and an average of about 13.3 ship-years for shipment of Soviet purchases of U.S. heavy grains. The termination of subsidy for two passenger ships, the SS MARIPOSA and SS MONTEREY is projected during 1978. The 1978 appropriation level reflects continued efforts to become current in the settlement of balances due for prior year U.S.-flag operations by 1980. In 1978, settlement of balances due for calendar year 1975 operations and for approximately three-fourths of calendar year 1976 operations will be made. Continued emphasis will be placed on supporting U.S.-flag ship operations, and reductions in Federal cost will be made where such reductions will not seriously impair the competitiveness of the fleet.

OMB Recommendation

OMB has little control over the operating differential subsidy program through the budget process. Once the Maritime Subsidy Board has signed a contract with an ocean carrier, the Federal Government is committed to subsidize that carrier for the amount by which its costs for wages, maintenance and repairs, and insurance exceed the cost of these factors to foreign liners for comparable trade routes.

The Division's recommendation for FY 78 provides only for funding of contracts already in force and for contract renewals through December 31, 1977, pending completion of a study of maritime subsidy policy.

See Issue Paper #1.





#22. Agency: Maritime Administration: Research and Development

	1976		Approp. Req. Recom Total In Ceiling Recom Actual 18.5 18.5 18.5 18.5 18.3 18.3 18.3 (Shown	Personnel Levels (FTP)					
	Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong.	Agency		Agency	Request		June 30 Agency OMB Agency O
P.L. B.A. 0.	2 00 0 500	19.5 19.5 17.2	18.5	18.5.	18.5	18.3	18.3	18.3	(Shown under MARAD Operations and Training)

Agency Request

The 1978 program funding request reflects a decrease of \$175,000 from the 1977 level. MARAD will continue to support the objectives of the research and development program which are to develop means to build and operate requested for shipboard automation, the ship operations research and simulation facility (CAORF), advanced ship systems concepts, and other projects which are designed to improve the competitive position of the U.S. merchant marine. Decreases in projects that have achieved completion or reached stages requiring less funding account for the overall proposed decrease in funding requirements.

OMB Recommendation

The 1978 request reflects not only a slight cut from base but a substantial reprogramming effort. The ship operation information system program—applying computer technology to fleet management—has reached its limit in terms of industry implementation and is now being phased out. The nuclear ship research program, which has not received much industry support, is being eliminated. Programs receiving emphasis in 1978 include efforts at improving ship design and increasing the efficiency of American shipyards, as well as research on energy savings possibilities for the industry. These programs have potential in terms of reducing future government subsidies. It should be noted that MARAD has been responsive to our efforts to increase the levels of industry cost sharing for R & D. MARAD has evidenced that it is placing greater priority on programs which have higher industry financial participation.

The Division recommends acceptance of the agency request. As recently as 1974, MARAD was funded at \$24.3M for R & D. In spite of escalating costs, particularly at the ship simulation facility (CAORF), base programs have been substantially reduced since that time. Further reductions, while possible, would require postponing facility improvements or eliminating on-going projects and may have undesirable consequences for achieving further phased reduction in this program area.

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FY 1978 BUDGET Department of Commerce #23. Agency: _Maritime: Operations and Training

		Fund	ding Leve	1s (dolla	ars in mi	llions)			Personne'	Levels	(FTP)	
1976		197	77	,	19	78		1976	19	77	1978	0
Actual	Pres. Budget	Cong. Approp.	Agency Req.	OMB Recom	Agency Total	Request In Ceiling	OMB Recom	· June 30 Actual	Agency Req.	OMB Recom.	Agency Req.	
P.L. 46.9 B.A. 45.9 0. 44.3	48.5	48.2 48.2 48.9	48.7 48.2 49.0	48.7 48.2 49.0	53.7 53.7 51.8	53.7 53.7 51.8	50.9 50.8 49.0	1,378	1,392	1,392	1,429	1,411

Agency Request

This appropriation finances costs of administration and direction of the Maritime Administration programs: the maintenance of the National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF) and the training programs at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and the state marine schools. The 1978 request of \$53,666,000 represents an increase of \$5,466K over the 1977 appropriation level. This increase will provide for uncontrollable cost increases; the continued funding of planned facility modernization at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy; expansion of the firefighting-aboard-ships training program; initiation of a joint Maritime Administration-Navy program to improve the activation response capability of selective ships in the National Defense Reserve Fleet; and other items required to improve general program management. The request includes a net increase of 36 positions, of which 12 are related to administration of the Federal ship financing guarantee program which is funded on a reimburseable basis.

OMB Recommendation

The state of the s

The Division recommends the 1977 FTP personnel ceiling be increased by 14 to handle the reimbursable workload associated with deactiviting the Glomar Explorer. The ship was recently transferred to the NDRF. The recommended increase in ceiling is to be offset by a reduction in the DOD ceiling.

The Division recommends an additional 19 positions and \$2.6M in 1978 distributed as follows: 1) Federal ship finaincing guarantee program (12 positions); 2) firefighting-aboard-ships training program \$1.2M and 7 positions); 3) Merchant Marine Academy modernization (\$.8M, no positions); and 4) mandatory increases (\$.6M, no positions). The firefighting training program results from a pending Coast Guard rulemaking proposal which would require such training for all merchant seamen. The increase proposed for the Academy is part of the amount needed (\$4M total) for one major building renovation (the balance needed is in the base).

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The Division recommends against approving the funds and personnel increases proposed for the following:

1) increases for MARAD-Navy joint program to activate NDRF ships—no study has been made of the feasibility of contracting out for this purpose; 2) staff increases at the Academy-unjustified when no enrollment changes are contemplated; 3) increased staff for Great Lakes Office—not supported by workload changes; and 4) all other proposed program increases—capable of being supported within the base, except \$1M of further modernization projects at the Academy which should be postponed.

The renovation program now underway at the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York is part of the Federal Government's commitment to continue operating that institution. However, in light of the largerly commercial nature of the employment of the Academy's graduates and to assure student support for its program, the Division recommends that the Academy begin charging user fees. Specifically, we recommend that charges totaling \$3,000 per student per year for tuition, room and board be put in effect beginning with the class entering the Academy in July 1978. Such a policy will have no effect on MARAD's operations and training budget since the fees will be deposited in the Treasury general fund.

Department of Commerce FY 1978 Budget

Full-Time Permanent Employment Data

	1976		1977		1978		Change
	Actual	Ceiling	Request	Recom.	Request	Recom.	77 to 78
General Administration Bureau of Census Bureau of Economic Analysis Economic Development Administration Regional Action Planning Commissions Domestic and International Business	995 3,959 472 760 56	1,295 3,974 513 691 60	1,295 3,985 514 815 89	1,295 3,985 514 768 89	1,317 3,993 533 745 91	1,305 3,993 533 680 90	+ 10 +; 8 + 19 - 88 + 1
Administration	202	1,580 206 116	1,604 206 127	1,592 206 127	1,617 206 127	1,250 206 127	-342
Administration	12,630	12,467	13,785	12,929	14,075	13,001	+ 72
Control Administration	59 2,725	75' 2,646	92 2,694	92 2,694	126 2,770	104 2,699	+ 12 + 5
National Bureau of Standards National Technical Information	3,097	3,070	3,088	3,088	3,141	3,139	+ 51
Service	367 247 1,378	367 215 1,378	409 264 1,392	409 264 1,392	425 268 1,429	425 264 1,411	+ 16 + 19
Local Public Works Program	_	***		-	_	-	
Total Full-time Permanent	28,869	28,654	30,359	29,444	30,863	29,227	-217

Department of Commerce FY 1978 Budget

Other than Permanent Employment

	1976		1977		1978	Change	
	Actual	Ceiling	Request	Recom.	Request	Recom.	77 to 78
General Administration Bureau of Census Bureau of Economic Analysis Economic Development Administration Regional Action Planning Commissions	111 5,448 45 60 5	105 4,864 51 .73 5	105 4,860 ·51 58 6	105 4,860 51 58 6	105 6,143 57 58 6	105 6,143 ; 57 58 6	+1,283 + 6
Domestic and International Business Administration Minority Business Enterprise United States Travel Service	79 35 21	83 50 14	85 50 14	85 50 14	85 50 14	85 50 14	-
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	1,600	1,363	1,683	1,363	1,683	1,363	Non
National Fire Prevention and Control Administration Patent and Trademark Office	1 152	152	10 152	10 152	10 152	10 152	-
Science and Technology: National Bureau of Standards	412	412	477	477	477	477	ma .
National Technical Information Service	49	. 50	50	50	50	50	-
Office of Telecommunications Maritime Administration Local Public Works Programl/ All other	39 95 -	70 95 0 8	41 95 - 8	41 95 (140)	41 95 - 8	95 (95)	(-45)
•	Name of the Association of the A						
Total, Other than Permanent	8,152	7,395	7,745	7,417	9,034	8,706	+1,289
Total, Other than Permanent including Local Public Works Program				(7,557)	1	(8,001)	(+1) 244)
1/ Formal request expected by mid-	November.					10	13 00

^{1/} Formal request expected by mid-November.

Department of Commerce FY 1978 Budget

TOTAL Employment

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	19761977				197	Change	
	Actual	Ceiling	Request	Recom.	Request		77 to 7
General Administration	1,106 9,407 517 820 61	1,400 8,838 565 764 65	1,408 8,845 565 873 95	1,400 8,845 565 826 95	1,430 1.0,136 590 803 97	1,410 10,136 590 738 96	+ 10 +1,291 + 25 - 88 + 1
Administration	18,951 237 131	1,663 256 130	1,689 256 148	1,677 256 141	1,702 256 141	1,335 256 141	- 342
Administration	14,230	13,830	15,468	14,292	15,758	14,364	+ 72
Control Administration	60 2,877	75 2,798	102 2,846	102 2,846	136 2,922	114 2,851	+ 12 + 5
National Bureau of Standards National Technical Information	3,509	3,482	3,565	3,565	3,618	3,616	+ 51
Service Office of Telecommunications Maritime Administration Local Public Works Program 1/ All other	412 286 1,473	. 417 285 1,473 - 8	459 305 1,487	459 305 1,487 (140)	475 309 1,524	475 305 1,506 (95)	+ 16 + 19 (- 45
Total, Other than Permanent	37,021	36,049	38,104	36,861	39,897	37,933	+1,072
Total, Other than Permanent including Local Public Works Program				(37,001)	1	(38,028)	(+1,027 FORD
							0 200 %

^{1/} Formal request expected by mid-November