



support of, but external to, the existing EDP organization. Future policy and standards development and strategic and operational planning are logical components of an EDP organization and should be included within the new organization structure and mandate.

Concurrent with the development of the Strategic Plan, the Department authorized a word processing study to "recommend a policy and an organizational framework designed to lead to the provision of more efficient and effective word processing services in Headquarters" (Chapter 4, 1.9). Recommendations have been developed by the study team and presented to the Department for review and acceptance. One of the recommendations proposes the organizational placement of word processing services (MGDW) as part of MFS, in the intermediate term, and eventually, in the long term, as a component of a 'User Computing Division' within an Information Services Bureau. We agree in principle with this recommendation, and will examine the impact and implementation of the recommendation in the context of the overall EDP organization.

FUNCTIONAL GAPS TO BE FILLED

In addition to identifying an increase in resources to deliver EDP services, the Strategic Plan also leads to an identification of the scope of functions that need to be performed for successful implementation of the plan. Many of the functions are performed at present by members of the current EDP organization, but in addition to their primary responsibilities. However, their increasing importance to a successful informatics organization means that additional resources must be devoted to them; resources that must be devoted on a full-time basis. Functions that fall into this category include:

- Data Management. This unit would concentrate on the effective management and control of data as a departmental resource. The activities of the data management group would be geared to improving the availability, accessibility, and utilization of data in the Department.
- Technology Planning, and Research. Technical support services would be provided to the EDP organization units as