

macro policy analysis, trend identification, data correlation and manipulation) until a sufficient body of material had been assembled under Level III activities. Whatever other benefits might be derived, the existence of country data banks and sets of key policy documents would be invaluable to any officer receiving a new assignment at home or abroad, or to anyone encountering a new subject for the first time.

116. It is envisaged that the creation of subsidiary systems to serve Level III and IV requirements could provide the means to give particular support in times of crisis and their design should take that possibility into account. The proximity of the Operations Centre would be an advantage in that its facilities could be developed in a complementary way.

117. It would be premature to attempt working out the details of the Level III and IV subsidiary systems, or to suggest precisely what equipment should be used. Whatever shape the systems might take, they would of course rest on the underlying foundation of the "core" information system which would provide the basic capabilities and from which the selected information would be drawn. To obtain optimum benefits, the systems should be developed and evolve as the product of a continuing interaction between the Director of Information Systems and those such as PAG and the Central Staff whose responsibilities demand a perception of overall Departmental requirements.