

implemented, for the most part by the user. Where access to a non-secure application is required the micro-computer could also serve as a terminal.

A number of hybrid system approaches have also been proposed using a combination of micro-computer work station and host computer, for example, with the host computer maintaining a central repository of records and the work station carrying a subset of that data combined with specific additional data needed for local processing. This is the approach that has been proposed for an Assignment System in Personnel which would be implemented on a micro-computer work station utilizing a base of data derived originally from the PMIS. Additional data maintained on the work station would consist of planning data for assignments which would not normally be carried on the PMIS.

This type of system has its place in the short term. It should provide valuable support for users, and develop experience that will be useful in the design of new corporate systems. However, the environment that is planned for the future, allowing managers to access all types of data from a work station, will make a micro-computer work station solution unacceptable because of its vulnerability in a secure system.

4.7.10 POSTS

The computing requirements at Posts would depend on the size and principal function of the post. The larger Posts with financial management responsibility (such as London, Paris and Washington) would justify dual processor systems, each with the power of one MIPS. One system to be made secure could serve the office automation requirements of the Post and the other would handle the program and administrative needs. This approach would require further study and thought.

The set of software available would consist of the following:

- COBOL for application development,
- CODASYL Data Base Management,
- IRIS Information retrieval system,
- PRESENT report generator,
- Office automation tools.

Those Posts with large immigration responsibilities such as Hong Kong would justify a single processor system with the power of one MIPS. They would share the same set of software components as the FMO posts but any eventual office automation functions would have to be performed on stand alone units.

The computing requirements of the remaining Posts would be handled through the use of application dependent micro-computers. The initial applications would consist of financial, general administrative and office automation functions (such as word processing and automated spread sheet packages). Given the special conditions at Posts, at least two micro-computers would be installed to make sure that there is always a system available for critical applications. As requirements expand, exceeding the capacity of the initial dual configuration, additional micro-computers would be installed. Given the versatility of micro-computers they could be considered for installation at certain Posts which have a limited word processing requirement thus giving the Post the advantage of being able to perform some data processing applications at no additional cost.