



The RC influence on legislation



INSPIRATION FOR LEGISLATORS

In their capacity as the only Danish company developing and producing computers, RC has chosen to present a proposed public EDP-policy. It takes place in "Outline of a Danish EDP-Policy", and the idea is, through an encirclement of the problem and direction of a concrete possible solution, to make the political decision-makers concern themselves with the questions, enabling them to find the best possible solutions.

VITAL PROBLEMS

An important complex of problems to be solved by an EDP-policy is the protection of the individual against abuse of personal information in public and partly also in private EDP-systems. To secure supplies is another important point. The dependence of society on the supply of EDP-products is as large as that on oil. Just as an energy policy, for one thing, aims at securing future energy supplies, an EDP-policy must secure future supplies of EDP-products.

REQUIRED CORRELATION

The implementation of an EDP-policy has consequences for a long series of other policies and can consequently not be determined without resulting in consequences for, in any case, the employment policy, the economic policy and the educational and research policy.

In few years the EDP-industry has become the third largest factor in world trade, only surpassed by motor vehicles and oil. At the same time it is the most rapidly growing sector,



with a yearly expansion of approx. 15 per cent. The type of jobs particularly created by the EDP-industry are research and development oriented.

SUPERVISION OF INDEX OF NAMES DESIRABLE

In a report by the Ministry of Justice, a concrete Bill concerning public registers was introduced. In RC's opinion the report and the Bill contain a weighty contribution to clarify a very serious complex of problems. Passing of the Bill would be a momentous step towards an effective and positive protection of the citizens.

MAN IN CENTRE OF EDP-DEVELOPMENT

Looking at the arguments underlying the EDP-policy in other countries, the question of security of supplies holds a key position. Also in Denmark it is recognized that EDP is a necessary element in the administrative system of a society, in research, hospital service and industry as well as in other fields. In Denmark the ethical and human aspects of the problem are, however, equally considered.

In the Danish EDP-debate, a board to supervise the build-up and application of public lists of persons is in the forefront. This also applies to the placing of the responsibility for the use of register-information with the authority whose tasks necessitate the data in question.

EDP IN SCHOOLS

For several years Denmark has been a leading country as regards the introduction of data-logy in schools. RC has taken a substantial part in influencing the development of this new subject in primary schools as well as in grammar schools and institutes of higher education.

Also within this field RC-initiatives have been seen to act on part of the Danish legislation in a positive manner rich in perspective.