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Office of the Secretary

REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE JOHN T. CONNOR
PREPARED FOR DELIVERY AT THE DEDICATION OF THE
CLEARINGHOUSE FOR FEDERAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
INFORMATION, SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA, JANUARY 27, 1965

It is a pleasure for me to participate in the dedication of this
Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information. And
it is very appropriate.

My own career has been closely tied to science and technology
in both government and industry. And now, as Secretary of Commerce,
I understand that I have under my direction one of the largest non-
military scientific capabilities in the Federal Government.

It is also highly appropriate that the Commerce Department
should have this capability. To an increasing extent, our national
economy is science-based. The thrust of innovation which spurs the
growth of our industry and commerce comes largely from the laboratory.
It's brainpower that creates the new products, and the new industrial
processes.

The Department of Commerce has recognized this technological
challenge. And the National Bureau of Standards has long served the
nation in this regard. It has been a focal point for promoting the

application of the physical and engineering sciences in industry. And in the future, its role will be more and more critical for the country's economic well-being.

The establishment of this Clearinghouse reflects the Department's lively awareness and concern with these technological challenges. In this Clearinghouse we see, for the first time, a concerted effort to obtain a full dollar's value for each research tax dollar spent. It will help us use our existing national scientific capability more fully. It will help up improve the profitability of our national research investment. And it will do this for both government and private enterprise.

I am especially happy to have with us today to dedicate this new building one of the outstanding members of the United States Senate, the Senior Senator from the State of Arkansas, John L. McClellan.

For more than 20 years, Senator McClellan has worked to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of our Federal Government. He has been especially concerned with the impact of science and technology on our national development. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, he has initiated many hearings and studies on this subject.

As a result, he has been particularly concerned with the proliferation of information sources and the lack of coordination between them. This has made the task of information searching very difficult and frustrating for industry. And at least as far back as 1958, Senator McClellan advocated a clearinghouse for Federally-generated scientific information.

His advocacy of this function has been instrumental in the creation of this center. And he can take personal pride in seeing his hopes reach fulfillment.

Through this Clearinghouse, we will eliminate duplication of effort by the Defense Department and the Department of Commerce. We will achieve substantial savings and a more efficient dissemination of this vital information.

It is my great pleasure to present to you--Senator McClellan:

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