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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
August 25, 1965

MEMORANDUM TO HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

At the Cabinet meeting today, I announced that we would begin to introduce a new planning -- programming -- budgeting system in Government. This will be a large and important job. I want all of you to devote personal attention to it. The general purpose and outline of the new system are described in the attached statement and charts.

Detailed instructions on this system will be issued by the Budget Director in a few weeks. In the meantime, the Director and his staff are prepared to discuss with you the general outlines of what is to be done.

You should begin at once to develop plans for the creation of your program and planning staffs. I want you to get the best people possible for these staffs both from within your organizations and from outside of government.

How swiftly, and how smoothly, this new planning, programming and budgeting system begins to work its benefits depends, in substantial measure, on the amount and kind of personal authority and interest you bring to it.

Because of the limited time available, it will be necessary to use an ad hoc arrangement in preparing the national goals and the least costly and most effective means of attaining those goals for the fiscal year 1967 legislative program. For this purpose, it is my desire that you use the Legislative Task Forces that Joe Califano has set up at my direction.

Lyndon B. Johnson

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