

File-1490
Apportionment



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of the Census
Washington, D.C. 20233

December 27, 1990

1990 DECENNIAL CENSUS
DPLD TO DIR MEMORANDUM NO. 90-152

MEMORANDUM FOR Charles D. Jones
Associate Director for
Decennial Census

From: Susan M. Miskura
Chief, Decennial Planning Division

Subject: 1990 Apportionment Logistics--For the Record

I am providing these notes for historical purposes. They summarize the events of December 26, 1990, the day the apportionment data based on the 1990 decennial census were delivered to the White House. This documentation is based solely on my point of view in two roles: one, as Chief of the Decennial Planning Division which independently verified the apportionment calculations and provided the Director, Barbara Everitt Bryant, with the official transmittal including the apportionment table; and under the circumstance of Acting for you in which role I accompanied Dr. Bryant to the Department of Commerce for the delivery of the data and was present at the press conference.

Decennial census staff had begun to prepare for the delivery of the counts early in the year. This included drafting and clearing the transmittal package, designing the table to be attached, and defining responsibilities for calculating and verifying the apportionment tables, including counts of overseas military persons, Federal civilian employees, and their dependents. The details of this preparation are well documented elsewhere.

While we had been scheduled to calculate and deliver the data on December 27 (see the Executive State of the Census report for the previous week), the data had become available on December 24, and it was decided early in the morning of December 26 to proceed with the delivery. The Decennial Planning Division delivered the overseas counts to the Population Division and both divisions proceeded to calculate the apportionment. Several persons (Jim Dinwiddie, Pat Berman, John Thompson, Paula Schneider, and I) compiled a short of set of questions and answers based on your suggestions earlier that morning. We had been requested to provide the transmittal to Dr. Bryant by 1 p.m. but were several minutes late in doing so. There were several reasons for this: a change that day in the letter from Secretary Mosbacher to the President; the introduction of a need to provide supplementary tables with historical data on state counts; and other unanticipated requests.

Media, Congressional, and other contacts were independently prepared and implemented mostly at the Department of Commerce.

Approximately at 1:10, my staff and I delivered the transmittal to Dr. Bryant. After signing and/or reviewing the transmittal and related materials, Dr. Bryant and I proceeded to Dr. Darby's office; from there Dr. Bryant, Dr. Darby, and I (acting for you) provided the package to the General Counsel's office. There occurred further review of the materials and compilation of the package to be delivered by the General Counsel to the White House. The delivery was accomplished by approximately 2:40 p.m.

The press conference was very well attended. A background package, and subsequently the release itself, were distributed prior to a question-and-answer period by Dr. Darby and Dr. Bryant at about 3:15. The press conference ended about 3:45.

I am attaching various materials referred to in this chronology. This memorandum should be kept in the Decennial Planning Division files for reference in planning analogous activities for the Year 2000 census. Planning for the next census should include compiling whatever documentation is available on how this has been done in previous censuses.

Attachments

cc: P. Schneider (POP)
R. Speaker
J. Thompson (STSD)
R. Bair
P. Berman
J. Dinwiddie
A. Stephenson
E. Wagner
C. Landman