DATE: November 6, 1973

TO: Ms. Brenda Feder

FROM: Greg Russell


This is in confirmation of our recent telephone discussion concerning this subject.

Items 18a(1967) and 16a(1969) in the Survey of Mature Men were used as "check items" for the interviewers to verify that respondents actually worked 52 weeks during the previous year before continuing with the interview. Using 1969 as an example:

Item 16a is asked only if the response to 15a was "52 weeks." If some number of weeks on layoff was discovered in 16a, this number was entered, item 15a reduced accordingly, and the interview resumed with item 16c.

In the computer edit for such a case, the entry in 15a (now less than 52) would lead to item 16b (via Check Item F). This edit was designed to check item 16a, transfer the entry to 16b, and change 16a to "out-of-universe," the correct code according to the pattern of entries.

Thus, the only valid entries in item 16a after the edit has been performed are "00," "NA," or "out-of-universe."

cc: R. Mangold