

United States Government Manual

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PROMOTE, then, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

GEORGE WASHINGTON

in his

Farewell Address.

FOREWORD

The *United States Government Manual* results from the need for integrated, authoritative information on the organization and functions of the departments and agencies of the Federal Government. It is designed as a reference book to provide source material that will answer questions concerning the authority for and the organization and procedure of the Federal agencies and institutions. Each section has been approved by the head of the department or agency concerned.

The present edition of the *Manual* incorporates changes effected by the Reorganization Act of 1939, which became effective July 1, 1939. Henceforth the *Manual* will be published three times annually—October, February, and July—in order that changes in organization and personnel may be embodied following new legislation or regulations.

LOWELL MELLETT, *Director,*
Office of Government Reports.

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