

## WELCOMING REMARKS

Vincent P. Barabba  
Director, U.S. Bureau of the Census

On behalf of the Bureau of the Census, I would like to welcome you to this International Symposium on Computer-Assisted Cartography. We are pleased to cooperate with the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping in cosponsoring this second conference on automation in cartography. Hopefully, it is the beginning of a long and fruitful association.

A real problem at the Bureau of the Census is how to communicate the large volume of information that we gather, not just every ten years, but every month. How can we make these data more meaningful, more useful, more easily understandable to you -- the data user? It is my strong belief that we must develop graphic techniques which complement our existing data formats by summarizing data efficiently and accurately.

We at the Bureau are excited about our cartographic programs and activities. The Urban Atlas series, presenting information from the 1970 census for major metropolitan areas, is the latest in a long line of developments in the field of data display. I encourage you to view the displays in the Census Bureau exhibit room and give us the benefit of your experiences. Your comments will help us improve the geographic and cartographic support of census operations.

We hope to have a frank and open interchange of ideas and information during the week. We believe that we have something to contribute to this Symposium, and we know that you have much to contribute from your varied experiences in the university, in private enterprise, and at the Federal, State, and local levels of government. We welcome your active participation in the plenary sessions and at the seminars, and we look forward to a continuing dialogue with you following the conference.

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*Editor's Note: Morton A. Meyer, Chief of the Census Bureau's Geography Division, delivered the welcoming remarks on behalf of Mr. Barabba.*