

DD/S&T# 5528-66

16 November 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Science
and Technology

SUBJECT : 25X1A
[REDACTED] Report

1. The sections of the report which specifically impact upon, or are of specific interest to, OCS are V 4-12 and VI 8. I did not see the entire report; copies of the papers noted were brought to me.

2. I endorse the basic conclusion that there should be a better procurement management system and that logical components of such a system include logistics support and R&D management. But I do not see the logic of such systems development occurring outside of present DDS systems analysis efforts. The DDS has underway studies aimed at personnel, finance, and materiel processing, among others, both to improve present procedures and to develop a long-range management approach to administrative support. We have now been given approval to acquire significant personnel and machine assets to assist the DDS in these analyses. A first consideration might well be to enlarge the scope of the "[REDACTED] Study," if indeed the [REDACTED] 25X1A proposals exceed its scope. 25X1A

3. Similarly, although the O/DDS&T contract management (CONARS) system developments and OSA contract procedures deserve praise and reflect considerable initiative, efficiency, far-sightedness and the like, it does not follow that the S & T Directorate ought, therefore, to get into common-concern administrative activities. Rather the techniques and procedures that represent improvements ought, I think, to be passed on to the DDS. And, as good a forward step as CONARS is, I think it can be improved upon.

4. The comment that the DDS is "constrained to work within OCS 360 plans" is, at worst, snide and, at best, naive. The decision to use OCS rather than acquire separate DDS equipment was a conscious

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decision. That decision, of course, can be reconsidered at any time, but I submit that there is not yet any real basis for deciding that the 360 hardware can't do the DDS job. Past performance problems were the direct result of inadequate assets; as noted, this situation will change.

25X1A 5. The skepticism as to whether one piece of hardware can do scientific, administrative, and information storage and retrieval jobs is, I think, antiquated; I think the equipment which we have coming in can. I asked specifically for details on how the 360 was built to avoid compromises when handling those three kinds of jobs when I was in Poughkeepsie recently. I asked the author of the ADP comments in the [REDACTED] Report about his familiarity with ADP generally and the 360 system specifically when the oral presentation was given on the Report some time ago. He admitted that he had not pursued the subject in any great depth.

6. As to centralization vs. decentralization, this battle continues to be waged across the country. The fact is that there is no basis for a black or white choice. It is not impossible that the cost/effectiveness gains claimed for the time-shared, remote query, multi-processing, multi-programming 360/Model 67 will not prove out, and stand-alone systems for the DDS jobs, and the DDI, and the DDS&T, and the DDP might result. But there is no statistical evidence from an operating environment to either prove or disprove the manufacturer's claims. Let's use the assets now given us to find out, assuming a positive, not negative, approach.

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[REDACTED]
Director of Computer Services

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15 November 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

25X1A

SUBJECT: Discussion with [REDACTED] Concerning Amounts Obligated to be Used in the Contract Information System Data Base

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1. I discussed with [REDACTED] this afternoon the need for following a procedure under which amounts obligated, as reported in the contract information system data base, will be in complete agreement with financial reports prepared by OMB.

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2. [REDACTED] assured me that beginning with November reports the input of amounts obligated into the contract information system data base will, if properly processed by GCS, result in cumulative total of amounts obligated which will be in agreement with the OMB status of funds report for the same month. This agreement presupposes of course that the Management Information Officer will establish a cutoff date for the computer data input compatible with the cutoff date used by the OMB R&F Officer for his financial report.

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[REDACTED]

Chief
Budget Branch
O/DB&T

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cc: Mr. [REDACTED]
Mr. [REDACTED] OMB
Mr. [REDACTED] OMB

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