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Memorandum

TO   :   Chairman   DATE: 9 Oct 67
             Committee on Documentation
             United States Intelligence Board

FROM   :   Chairman
             Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) Committee

SUBJECT: COINS Status Report

    1. This report is intended to summarize the current status of COINS. A comprehensive semi-annual report will be issued after the end of September 1967.

    2. Organization: The COINS Committee continues meeting bi-weekly to review COINS status and problems, and to formulate policy, objectives and plans.

    Four ad hoc panels have been formed to consider and resolve individual COINS problems or tasks. Definitive results of panel efforts will be expressed in Technical Memorandum of Agreement (TMA) containing conventions binding on all COINS participants, and formalized by signatories of each participating agency. Currently [   ] concerned   25X1
with data base requirements, and consolidation and construction of common
[   ] The Remote Computer Transmission Panel   25X1
deals with technical aspects of computer and communications interface, and the COINS Evaluation Panel will develop criteria for evaluation of the system
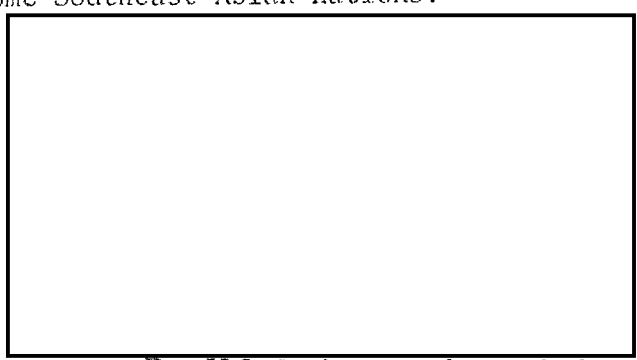
    3. System Status:

    a. A secure 300 character per second data link was installed between DIA and NSA on 21 December 1966. The first test message was transmitted on 13 February 1967. The first successful round robin test of interrogational cycles between remote terminals at NSA and DIA and an unclassified file at the other agency occurred on 20 April 1967. The NSA/DIA system is currently undergoing further tests using operational files at each agency. Tentatively, the system will be operational by 1 November 1967.

    b. Latest available information indicated that DIA will be prepared to activate circuits to all other COINS participants after 1 March 1968.

    4. System Files: A total of 25 information files, broadly categorized below, are being made available in COINS by participating agencies. The files primarily concern the Soviet Union and China but contain limited information on some Southeast Asian nations.

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MORI/CDF

GROUP-3
Downgraded at 12 year
intervals; not
automatically declassified

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a. The files to be included in the COINS Experiment were selected by each participant based upon his own criteria and one or more of the following:

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(1) Contain [   ] information, emphasis on which was directed by the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

(2) Include data of wide interest in the intelligence community.

(3) Existed in or were planned for machine application in the COINS agencies.

b. It is recognized, in an experimental system of this nature, that a period of trial usage must take place to evolve the best set of intelligence files for community use. Concurrently, efforts must be made to develop file data standards, and eliminate duplication and redundancy among agencies if at all possible. Such efforts are currently being made by two COINS Panels, the Soviet

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5. The Future: Three problems of immediate concern to which the COINS Committee will address its efforts are:

a. The most efficient and effective method of present and future COINS management.

b. COINS user training at each agency.

c. Future objectives and plans for the system.

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Chairman, COINS Committee

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