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Remarks:

This is another shot at WRK's desired approach to paper on APEX - a single program.

Getting closer?

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
	8/12/80

DRAFT #1
12 August 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

[REDACTED]
Special Assistant to the DCI for Compartmentation

[REDACTED]
Director of Security

SUBJECT: APEX - A Single System

1. I mentioned in the Second Quarterly Report of July that difficulties were surfacing in implementing the part of APEX concept that calls for the several government agencies to deal in a UNIFORM way with industrial contractors who handle SCI and that this potential problem is under examination.

2. This memorandum is a report of progress on that examination.

3. Industry doubts government ability to act in a concerted manner in some rather peripheral areas that give them a basis for complaint. Among the issues we have identified are:

A multiplicity of forms, each slightly different and each serving a different agency's perception of needs in connection with, for example, personal history, fingerprint cards, authorization for release of financial, academic and police records.

Variations in procedural matters concerning requirements for Background Investigations, adjudications of trustworthiness and loyalty and the way this information is obtained, including the polygraph.

Variations in physical security requirements.

There are other issues which industry sees as making life easier for them. Among such issues are:

A desire to have just one survey by a government agency each year, no matter how many agencies share the APEX Control Facility.

Advocacy of a ready transferability of cleared persons working on one agency's SCI contract to another.

An improvement in the procedures of clearance and a shortening of the time required.

A desire for a one time nondisclosure agreement.

A general reduction in security oversight by government agencies.

4. The Security Committee staff is addressing some of these issues. Analytical actions and necessary coordinations are underway. The Investigative Agencies of the government are analyzing just what it is they need in order to make reliable determinations in today's environment and today's culture about loyalty and trustworthiness and how to go about collecting such data, adjudicating it and providing for appeal procedures when an individual is denied SCI access. The polygraph looms as a major issue in attempts to arrive at uniformity.

5. The SECOM has reissued updated physical security standards.

6. The Security Committee staff is also reviewing the varied forms that have come about over the years and is well along in culling duplications and unnecessary requests for information. Some simplification seems possible.

7. There are considerable concerns in the security components of the Community, including CIA about some of the other issues. Not all senior managers see concrete advantage or even broadly desirable aspects in creating a uniform government-wide process for dealing with SCI and industry although they do commend the effort and are seriously seeking a viable approach. Principal among these are the concerns that uniformity is viewed as meaning an eventual acceptance of least common denominator security standards, loss of a degree of control over activities, limitations on flexibility to make sensible and practical on-the-spot decisions where deviations from the norm are required and the loss of some hard won and valuable personnel security screening procedures like the polygraph. In addition there are as yet unquantified but suspected tremendous resource implications in trying to upgrade the Community's investigative capabilities. And lastly there are major philosophical tenets which must be addressed on an evolutionary and not revolutionary basis.

8. We are working on these issues. They do not pose significant hurdles to forward movement on APEX. They represent a desirable aspect of the concept and spirit of APEX and when finally resolved will be a viable, practical realization of the ideal in uniformity.



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