OIT 0790-86

Sept. 19, 86

OIT/TRIS
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: William F. Donnelly
                 Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Letter to Computerworld Magazine

1. Last month Computerworld magazine sent a letter to you requesting a short, unclassified article describing the use of computers in the Central Intelligence Agency. The article was to be included in a special issue along with selected contributions from major corporations and government agencies. Action for drafting a direct response was assigned to the DDA, and a letter was coordinated with Public Affairs and mailed on 29 August 1986.

2. We have been told that the magazine's editorial staff liked the article, but would like to attribute it to you so they will have a uniform level of response. They have received letters from Secretary of Commerce Baldrige and at least one other agency head. Since we believe publication of the article will help our recruiting efforts, it is requested that you sign the attached letter to the Editor in Chief of Computerworld.

3. Copies of the original request and the 29 August response are attached for your information. This request has been coordinated with the Office of Public Affairs.

STAT

                              William F. Donnelly

Attachments:
    A. Original Request
    B. 29 August Response
    C. Letter for DCI's Signature

ADMINISTRATIVE-INTERNAL USE ONLY

SUBJECT: Letter to Computerworld Magazine

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MD/OIT [   ] (9SEPT86)

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COMPUTERWORLD

375 Cochituate Road, Box 9171/Framingham, MA 01701-9171/(617) 879-0700

August 5, 1986

Executive L... ...

8C- 3620X

William J. Casey
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

BIT/TRIS
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Dear Mr. Casey:

Computerworld, the world's leading computer newspaper, will incorporate within its pages a special four-color supplement on Nov. 3 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Eniac, the first large-scale, electronic digital computer. We also intend to publish this special supplement separately as a keepsake edition to be distributed widely.

As a key editorial component, we are soliciting commentary from writers, scientists, artists, chief executive officers, educators, politicians and others. We invite your commentary of 50 to 500 words on the attached sheet. When published, your thoughts will reach 685,000 Computerworld readers. This commentary can reflect on one or more of the following questions:
1) What role should computers play in society?
2) How do you use computers at work or at home?
3) How have computers changed your life or field?
4) How do you believe computers will change society in the 21st century?

The style of your commentary is up to you, but we welcome anecdotes or personal experiences.

In this issue, Computerworld will be stepping beyond its normal role as the weekly newspaper of the information systems industry. Our intention is not to chronicle Eniac's formal history. We are using Eniac's anniversary as reason to broadly consider the place of the computer in business and everyday life. We will depict the use of computers from 40 years ago to now and speculate a bit about the future. We hope you will join us in this project.

Please call me at 1-800-343-6474, ext. 325, should you have any questions. We will send you a complimentary copy of the issue on publication. We would appreciate your response by Sept. 1.

Sincerely,

George Harrar
Features Director

/lmg

COMPUTERWORLD

375 Cochituate Road, Box 9171/Framingham, MA 01701-9171/(617) 879-0700

Please comment below in 50 to 500 words on one or more of the
questions in the cover letter. Feel free to use additional paper as
necessary. Return to George Harrar at the Computerworld address
above.

I transfer the entire copyright regarding this material to CW
Communications, Inc. I certify that this piece is an original work
and has not been published elsewhere.

Signed _____

Title _____

Company (if applicable) _____

Address _____

_____

Phone (optional) _____

OIT 0751-86

29 AUG 1986

Mr. George Harrar
Features Director, Computerworld
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701

Dear Mr. Harrar:

Mr. Casey, the Director of Central Intelligence, asked that I respond to your letter of August 5, 1986, requesting some commentary for your special issue on November 3. As Director of the office that manages computer use in the Central Intelligence Agency, I am pleased to submit the enclosed article. I hope it will be of help to you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Edward J. Maloney
Director
of
Information Technology

Enclosure

STAT   MD/OIT/_____ (28AUG86)

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STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide your readers with a description of the role of computers in the Central Intelligence Agency. It is particularly appropriate on this occasion because we at the CIA are preparing to celebrate our 40th anniversary next year.

As you know, the mission of the Central Intelligence Agency is to collect and analyze information needed to support U.S. foreign policy and protect our national security. In today's complex and dangerous world, the President of the United States and his advisers require a broad understanding of international trends and developments. Such understanding requires first-class intelligence. Our employees are striving to maintain the Agency's position as the best intelligence organization in the world, but without the assistance of computers, that goal would be very difficult to achieve.

Computers have played an important part in the Agency's activities since the early 1960s when the first mainframe units were installed. At first, these computers were used primarily for administrative tasks such as payroll and inventory, but it was obvious from the outset that computer technology could assist the Agency in its principal activity--the collection and processing of intelligence information. Since those early days, CIA computer specialists have worked to position the Agency at the leading edge of information technology and keep

it there. A major part of their efforts have involved the design and maintenance of highly sophisticated technical systems.

As a result, the computer has become an essential tool in our business. The vast amount of information pouring into the Agency must be quickly distributed, stored, and retrieved by numerous individuals. That information must then be analyzed, often with the support of computer-based methodologies. Frequently, this analysis deals with crisis situations and must be completed in a very short time frame. Most importantly, the results of this analysis must be delivered quickly to the responsible policymakers to help them understand the implications of their policy initiatives and the responses to those initiatives.

With the computer support now available, CIA officers have substantial computing power at their fingertips. For example:

--Thousands of cabled messages are automatically screened every hour and routed to the appropriate officers. The recipients read, annotate, route, save, and retrieve these messages in a totally electronic environment.

--A large-scale office automation and electronic mail system permits nearly instantaneous communications among Agency personnel.

--Intelligence officers use special CIA-designed software to manage the Agency's technical and human collection programs and to process the output of these programs.

--Military affairs analysts and scientists use large
mainframe computers to conduct sophisticated simulations
of modern weapons systems.

--Economists work with advanced econometric models to
forecast the economic performance of key nations.

--Political analysts rely on data management systems to
analyze patterns in terrorist activities, narcotics
trafficking, and the political stability of selected
countries.

--Cartographers and publication specialists have access to
the latest computer systems for designing and producing
maps and charts, as well as specialized graphics.

In the coming years, computers are likely to play an even
more important role in the CIA, enabling intelligence officers
to improve both the quality and efficiency of their work.
Soon, every officer will have a multi-functional high-end
workstation at his or her desk. In the near future, CIA
scientists will be able to call upon the power of
supercomputers to conduct highly complex scientific analyses.
The CIA is also exploring the applicability of artificial
intelligence, optical disk storage technology, robotics, and
other advanced techniques.

We are excited about the future of computer technology and
the unique contribution it makes to national security and the
intelligence profession. Our thanks go out to the talented and
dedicated computer professionals who have made these marvelous
advances possible.

OIT 0787-86

'19 SEP 1986

Mr. Terry Catchpole
Editor in Chief
Computerworld
Framingham, Massachusetts 01701

Dear Mr. Catchpole:

In response to the request by your publication for a
contribution from the Central Intelligence Agency for your
special issue of November 3, we submitted a letter on 29 August
to Mr. George Harrar. To provide you with a uniform level of
response from U.S. Government agencies, you may describe that
letter, as it was sent, as a statement of the Director of
Central Intelligence. I hope that it will be of use to you in
your 40th anniversary issue.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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MD/OIT/ _____ (9SEPT86)

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