



Central Intelligence Agency
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

19 June 1986

NOTE TO: D/OIR

SUBJECT: Open Source Exploitation Program:
Final Report

Give me your candid evaluation of this report as well as any suggestions you might have for either following up on the recommendations or actions that we should suggest to the DCI. I would like this ASAP.

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[Redacted Signature]

Richard J. Kerr
DDI

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[Redacted]

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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

83- 2733

17 June 1986

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Open

FROM:

Ambas
Chair

TO: (Officer designation,
building)

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI

FROM:


DCI

SUBJECT:

Open Source Exploitation
Program: Final Report

Does this add anything to the sum
total of our knowledge?

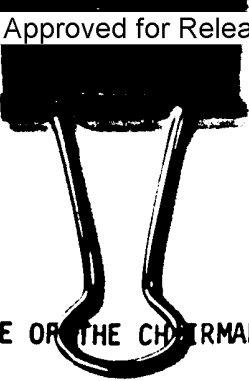
It seems to me if we are going
to do this we should try it with someone
who has been an analyst or intelligence
collector.


William J. Casey



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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
HUMINT Committee

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

HC 86-155
6 June 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH: Deputy Director, Intelligence Community Staff *GP*

FROM: 25X1
Chairman, HUMINT Committee

SUBJECT: Open Source Exploitation Program: Final Report 25X1

REFERENCE: HC 85-055, dtd 11 Mar 86, same subj 25X1

1. Attached for your information is the final report on the Open Source Exploitation Program. This report, endorsed by our Executive Steering Group, constitutes a blueprint for Community action in this field and a basic reference source. Appropriate supportive language is contained in your 1988-92 draft NFIP guidance, specifically to endorse the Community Information Retrieval System (CIRS) 25X1

2. The program reflects a process of thorough and purposeful cooperation among line managers responsible for open source exploitation. Users of open source information throughout the Community will be involved in the implementing phase already begun under the Information Handling Committee's direction, with continuing ESG policy oversight.

3. I will keep you informed as implementing actions proceed.

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25 JUN 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

25X1

SUBJECT: Comments on the Recommendations of the Open
Source Action Group

REFERENCE: Your note to D/OIR dtd 19 Jun 86,
Sub: Open Source Exploitation
Program: Final Report

1. We participated in all of the meetings of the Open Source Action Group (OSAG), primarily because of the Community-wide responsibilities carried out by our Publications Procurement Branch (PPB)--formerly Acquisitions Branch. We found the year-long endeavor to be of limited value from the standpoint of support for intelligence production in this Directorate. In fact, we adopted for many sessions a damage-limiting approach because other agencies attempted to use the OSAG as a means to have CIA/OCR perform functions for which they have allocated few resources over the years. In contrast, FBIS and ORD were more positive about the OSAG effort primarily because they were looking for resources to meet their community responsibilities. During the course of the meetings, it was apparent that [redacted] the Chairman and Executive Secretary, respectively, had their own agenda, which drove many of the final requirements.

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2. As you are aware, DCID 2/5 requires us to coordinate--no more, no less--the procurement of open source material for members of the Community who choose to participate in the Foreign Publications Procurement Program, which is managed by PPB, as INR/P. It became apparent at several OSAG meetings, however, that some members of the Community would have us venture farther from our mission by requiring us either to allow open source users access to our internal data base, which currently lists all the books acquired by Agency analysts, along with the analysts' names, or to provide a library or locator service by brokering requests from non-Agency users who would like to "borrow" books from Agency analysts. We find the first proposal objectionable from a security standpoint (besides, we are already providing essentially the same information through published booklists), and the second is unacceptable because of the resource implications. Rather, other agencies ought to enhance the support they provide their own people instead of looking to us to do more.

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SUBJECT: Comments on the Recommendations of the
Open Source Action Group

3. The production of intelligence can be best served by focusing on the near-term recommendations in the OSAG report. On the other hand, we do not think much of the long-term recommendations. They are by and large pie-in-the-sky; security issues, resource limitations, and bureaucratic realities argue against them. In fact, support for the Open Source Information Exchange (the concept that engulfs the long-term recommendations) within the OSAG was uneven at best; the strongest proponents were Davis and Marling, contrary to what the final report appears to imply.

4. Attached is a draft memorandum for you to forward to the DCI and DDCI. We discussed the OSAG report with OSWR.



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Attachment
As Stated

DI/OIR/C/MPD/ [redacted] (25 June 1986)

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Distribution:

- Original - Addressee
- 1 - ADDI
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- 2 - OD/OIR
- 2 - C/MPD/OIR

27 JUN 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Richard J. Kerr
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: Comments on Recommendations of the
Open Source Action Group

REFERENCE: Memo for DDCI fm DCI, dtd 17 Jun 86,
Sub: Open Source Exploitation Program:
Final Report (ER 86-2733)

1. Representatives from several offices within the Directorate of Intelligence and the Directorate of Science and Technology participated in the meetings of the Open Source Action Group (OSAG) and its various subcommittees. The OSAG was tasked with outlining ways to improve the collection and exploitation of open source material, particularly in the S&T area but also in the political, economic, and sociological fields. Two of the benefits derived from this effort are the dialogue that has been initiated among providers and users of open source materials, and the final report which constitutes the first detailed compilation of the workings of the open source community. However, given the level of effort devoted to the OSAG--the process started in early 1985--the results should have been more beneficial and realistic.

2. In our view the production of intelligence can be best served by focusing on the near-term recommendations in the OSAG report. Several of the projects cited are already underway, but some might need additional resources to be completed.

[redacted] The cost for this would total \$5.4 million for FY 1987-91. Other near-term recommendations revolve around low cost, but nevertheless valuable, efforts such as sharing technology applications and utilizing already existing forums in which to bring providers and users of open source material together to discuss issues and concerns.

3. It is in the area of long-term recommendations that we have the greatest concern. The extensively detailed plan for an Open Source Information Exchange (OSIE), while appealing in concept, is neither workable nor cost effective. In fact, support for this recommendation

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SUBJECT: Comments on Recommendations of the
Open Source Action Group

within the OSAG was uneven at best. The concept involves electronically linking all open sources users, who would share their data bases with all other users--those who have not already automated their data bases would have to first take that step--and offer them a series of services, such as an electronic directory, an automated online library, an electronic mail system, an electronic gateway to external data bases, and a collection of services to analysts and managers to help them more effectively exploit open source data. No total cost estimate is provided, and each individual agency would be expected to bear the cost for automating its services and making its data available to all users. In addition to resources, security would be a significant issue. A key to the success of this plan is the willingness of each agency to cooperate. Traditionally, the onus has fallen on the three major services of common concern (FBIS, OIR and FTD) to provide services, and we are not optimistic that OSIE would change this.

4. The cost drivers of the OSIE plan that are cited in the OSAG report are the major enhancements contemplated by FBIS and FTD. FBIS has expressed a willingness to develop an unclassified data base of FBIS products that would reside outside of the Agency's classified computer environment. [redacted] The Agency and DIA already have or will have access to these products through SAFE. FBIS is also willing to make its Automated Consolidated Translation Survey (ACTS) accessible to IC organizations [redacted] Once again, the Agency would have nothing to gain because we already have access to this system. The third effort is the proposal to enhance the FTD CIRC system to include the Free World, S&T, and system enhancements. [redacted] [redacted] We believe that this recommendation is misdirected. Expanding coverage to the Free World would be of value only if certain priority areas [redacted] were stressed. To include the Third World is useless because no meaningful S&T literature comes from that area.

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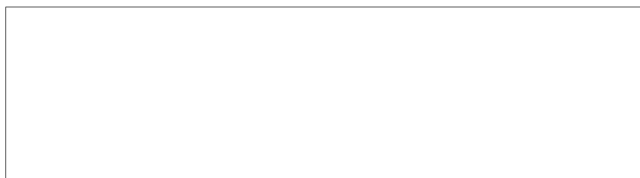
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5. Our bottom line is that it would be much more cost effective to build on the decentralized cooperative effort that we have in existing mechanisms. Creating an OSIE would require much bureaucratic and administrative overhead, require substantial resources, and would not guarantee us much more than we already have. Finally, we see no need to perpetuate the OSAG or the Executive Steering Group when standing committees, such as the Information Handling Committee, already exist to coordinate concerns and monitor programs.

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SUBJECT: Comments on Recommendations of the
Open Source Action Group

DI/OIR/C/MPD/[] (25 June 1986)

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