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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : COINS Sub-System Managers

DATE: 1 Jul 68

FROM : COINS Project Manager

SUBJECT: COINS Objectives and Master Plan

1. Attached is a consolidated redraft of the recommended COINS objectives to be submitted to the DCI. Considerable work is still required before they can be submitted.

a. Underlined portions are new items which have been added or modified.

b. Objectives preceded by an asterisk (\*) denote security items which  CIA has agreed to rewrite and submit for consideration of the next meeting.

2. This will be the major topic of discussion at the next COINS meeting on Friday, 12 July 1968, at CIA. Request each member be prepared to discuss these objectives so that a final draft can be prepared for coordination in mid-July 1968. Your proposed revisions to the attached paper should be typed with sufficient copies for all participants.

Acting COINS Project Manager

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SUBJECT: COINS Objectives and Master Plan

1. Authority

- a. USIB-D-39.1/9, "Community On-Line Intelligence System,"  
11 April 1968
- b. USIB-D-71.7/1, "Management of the COINS Experiment,"  
3 Jun 1968

2. Task: A major task which must be undertaken in the next six months is the development of a COINS Master Plan which integrates into a single package the short, medium and long range plans, programs, and budgets of all the participating organizations. The first step toward achieving this task is to develop and obtain approval of a set of objectives to be used by each Agency as a base for planning, programming and budgeting. The objectives as well as the plans, program will be divided into three time frames:

- a. Short Range (i.e., FY69 & FY70) - Objectives and tasks in this time frame will be broken down by fiscal year.
- b. Medium Range (i.e., FY71 & FY72) - No attempt will be made to break the objectives and tasks down by fiscal year in this period.
- c. Long Range (i.e., FY73 - FY74) - No attempt will be made to break the objectives and tasks down by fiscal year in this period.

3. Schedule:

- a. The COINS Master Plan must be completed and ready for coordination by the organizations participating in COINS Experiment before 1 September 1968.
- b. The approved version of the Master Plan must be submitted to the DCI by 1 October 1968.
- c. Annually this plan must be revised based on operational

4. Constraints:

a. The Master Plan is based in part on the already approved plans, programs and budgets of the participating agencies particularly for FY-69 and FY70.

b. Implementation and execution of any planning, programming and budgeting for follow-on COINS type system is dependent upon the results of an evaluation of the COINS Experiment and is subject to the approval of USIB.

c. Since no COINS participating agency has a complete computing system dedicated to COINS, all budgets will indicate only the incremental costs incurred as a result of COINS participation.

d. For a task or project to be included in the COINS program it must involve two or more of the participating agencies, and satisfy an established objective or requirement.

e. The results of the evaluation of the COINS Experiment, which are tentatively due in August 1969, may result in a significant rewrite of this plan.

5. Approach

a. The two most significant portions of the Master Plan will be those dealing with:

(1) The description of how the COINS experiment will be scheduled and conducted including the tasks which must be accomplished to bring it to a successful completion.

(2) A description of the planning tasks which must be undertaken to prepare for an operational COINS system should USIB approve continuation of COINS beyond the experimental stage.

b. The participating agencies are therefore requested to approve the tasks/objectives which follow as an agreed upon framework for preparing the Master Plan.

(1) The tentative schedule calls for these tasks/objectives to be coordinated and approved by 1 August 1968.

(2) In addition, parallel efforts will be made to develop a common format to be used by participating agencies for submitting their present and proposed plans, programs and budgets related to COINS.

#### 6. FY 1969 COINS Experiment Tasks/Objectives

Following are the tasks which must be accomplished in support of the COINS experiment and which should be described in detail in the COINS Master Plan.

- a. Specify the objectives of the COINS experiment.
- b. Provide a detailed, overall schedule for the experiment which specifies tasks, milestones, and reporting schedules.
- c. Provide the planning, programming and budgeting information requested by the DCI.
- d. Specify the primary and secondary files which are included in the COINS experiment, including maintenance schedules and rules for adding and deleting files or modifying files.

e. Develop and describe a common training plan and program to be utilized by the participating agencies, including the limited Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) capability developed for the experiment.

f. Specify the communications network characteristics and operating procedures, e.g., transmission rates, switching characteristics, querying, interrupt, maintenance schedule, etc.

\*g. Describe the security procedures which will be utilized in the experiment.

h. Describe in detail the methodology for collecting and the kinds of information which will be collected to provide data for evaluating the experiment.

i. Investigate the possibility of eliminating the need for a large redundant computer-system, store and forward switch.

j. Develop criteria for establishing and maintaining a "National" or "central" computerized file on a single intelligence subject to serve the needs of all members of the intelligence community

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k. Develop procedures by which data standards are submitted and adopted for use in COINS.

l. Current awareness reporting procedures will be implemented for one NSA file in the COINS Experiment. This will be regarded as experimental effort and will be implemented o/a December 1968. A DIA organization requests that it be notified when records

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[REDACTED] are added, deleted or modified. Therefore whenever such action is taken a notification message will be automatically generated by the NSA system and forwarded to the appropriate remote terminal at DIA.

m. DIA plans for COINS include the following:

- (1) IBM 7740 will be replaced by IBM 360/30, 2d qtr FY69.
- (2) IBM 1410 will be replaced by IBM 360/50, 2d qtr FY69.
- (3) An additional 360/50 with the Defense Photographic Index will be placed on-line during 2d qtr FY-69.
- (4) An IBM 360/65 may be placed on-line during the 4th qtr FY-69 for the purpose of accessing transportation files.
- (5) The Unified and Specified Commands plan to establish data links to the DIA switch in accordance with the following tentative schedule:

LANTCOM - Jan 1969

PACOM - Apr 1969

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[REDACTED]

o. Provide a consolidated breakdown of the costs incurred by each participating agency to date for the COINS experiment.

p. Establish operating procedures by which new organizations can tie into the COINS network with either a remote terminal or a computer system and have access to the data bases within COINS.

q. Establish procedures by which the COINS network can be disestablished in the event USIB does not approve its continuance.

7. FY 1969 - 70 Planning Tasks/Objectives in Preparation for an Operational COINS System

a. The following planning tasks should be started in the 3rd or 4th quarter of FY 1969 prior to the completion of the experiment. They would be undertaken on the following assumptions.

(1) COINS will be continued beyond the COINS Experiment which is scheduled to be concluded at the end of FY 1969.

(2) COINS will become the intelligence community system for on-line use of digitally stored files.

b. The techniques, systems, and equipment improvements resulting from most of these tasks will be implemented as soon as they are available following USIB approval to implement an operational COINS system. Their implementation is contingent in some cases on available funds.

(1) All participating organizations will make the necessary provisions in their programs and budgets to continue the COINS experiment in FY 1970.

(2) Develop objectives and specifications for an operational system. Determine resources required and prepare a plan for its development and implementation.

(3) Develop the specifications for a multi-level security system for the COINS network.

(4) Develop specifications for a network users language to serve as a bridge between the several languages of the participating agencies or design a common users language to be adopted by the several agencies.

(5) Based on COINS experiment data and expressed user needs, determine what files should be initially developed for an operational COINS system and assign development responsibility to the agencies having primary concern.

(6) Develop specifications to modify and upgrade the COINS network to assure query/response turn around time and data transmission rates in accordance with users needs.

c. Remote Terminals:

(1) State Department: A high speed remote terminal capability will be installed in the Department of State.

(2) National Indications Center (NIC): A high speed remote terminal capability may be installed in NIC in the Pentagon.

d. The ASCII character set will be the standard for all new computer system and remote terminal procured for use in COINS network.

e. Develop specification for a limited common, computer independent users language for use in COINS. Language should permit each participating organization to add its own specialized operations to the common, limited users language.

f. The following files will be established and maintained in COINS by the organizations indicated:

FILE	SPONSOR	REMARKS
(a) Watch Officers Notes	NIC/DIA	File must be established in DIA system
(b) Commodity File		Required by State



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8. FY 1970 Operational COINS System Tasks/Objectives

- a. Complete and implement planning tasks started in previous phase.
- b. Implement an on-line, remote file maintenance system to permit file sponsors to add, delete or modify data as quickly as new information becomes available.
- c. Extend the COINS system within the original participating agencies by the addition of more remote terminals to bring in additional components.
- d. Plan the extension of the COINS system to additional intelligence components, e.g., ONI, through the installation of remote terminals. Plan the incorporation of additional remote access computer systems into COINS (e.g., ONI's Project Sextant/Compass). Specifically, DIA plans to establish data links between the DIA communications switch and the following unified and specified commands at the tentative dates indicated:

EUCOM	-	Sep 1969
SAC	-	Sep 1969
NORAD	-	Sep 1969
STRICOM	-	Sep 1969
ALCOM	-	Apr 1970

9. FY 1970 Planning Tasks/Objectives to be Undertaken Should COINS be Disproved.

A decision that COINS does not provide an economic solution to the requirement for the exchange of data in certain files among the agencies of the intelligence community is a contingency that must be recognized and prepared for.

No attempt will be made at this time to identify or prepare an alternate plan.

10. FY 71 & 72 (Medium Range Plans)

\*a. Provide for the installation and modification of the necessary hardware, and software to provide for multi-level security in all computer systems within the COINS network. (NOTE: Assume that by this time the technical problems have been identified and resolved.).

b. Develop a set of minimum technical specifications for a family of remote terminals designed and configured for use in COINS. These terminals should be designed to work in conjunction with the users language (e.g., major common verbs in the users language would have separate keys rather than having to be typed out by the user each time).

c. Develop specifications for a file, independent interrogations capability and implement agreed upon specifications.

\*d. Where appropriate all COINS files will be expanded to include the following security information at data item or record level as appropriate:

- (1) Security Classification
- (2) Security Handling Instruction
- (3) Security Dissemination Instruction
- (4) Security Codewords (5) Security Categories

e. Where appropriate all COINS files will be expanded to include the following information on the source(s) used for the information in a record:

- (1) Date of source
- (2) Title of source/type of Source
- (3) Classification of source

f. The following files will be established and maintained in COINS by the agency indicated.

<u>TITLE OF FILE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>
(1)	
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	

g. The following new organizations will be entering COINS during this period.

(1) DIA tentatively plans to install a data link between the communications switch and SOUTHCOM in July 1970.

11. FY 73 & 74 (Long Range Plan):

a. COINS capability for storage and retrieval of graphical information (maps, charts, diagrams, etc.) should be considered. This capability would supplement the formatted file system, and be handled in digital form. Additionally COINS should include some form of image storage capability in which images are stored and transmitted in an analog form (e.g., parallel video of a network).

b. Provide an "interactive" mode of operations to permit user interaction with a distant computer and files on a word-by-word or line-by line- basis (i.e., conversational mode). Detection of valid errors and correction of queries would be aided by this capability. The system being interrogated could help the user by identifying errors immediately by refusing incorrectly worded queries, or questioning the extent of some queries such as "Do you really want all entries?"

c. Some sort of "cost feedback" could be incorporated in COINS.

This will become particularly important when the system load becomes heavy and when various grades of service are provided. The user should be made aware in some direct and immediate way what it is costing the system (and therefore the user) to operate in the way he has chosen. The user should be given latitude to choose among alternative services, allowing him to evaluate the cost and value of the service to him.

d. All major participating organizations (i.e., having a remote access computer system) will plan, program and budget for a fourth generation computer system which at a minimum has the following features:

- (1) Large high speed storage
- (2) A more powerful communications interface capability (i.e., multiplexed high-speed input-output lines)
- (3) Availability of mass storage
- (4) More highly sophisticated software (e.g., Executives or operating system written in a higher level language)

e. (Alternative to "d" above). Develop a set of minimum technical specifications with respect to the type of computer system to be included in COINS.

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