

NSA review completed

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DIA review(s) completed.

State Dept. review completed

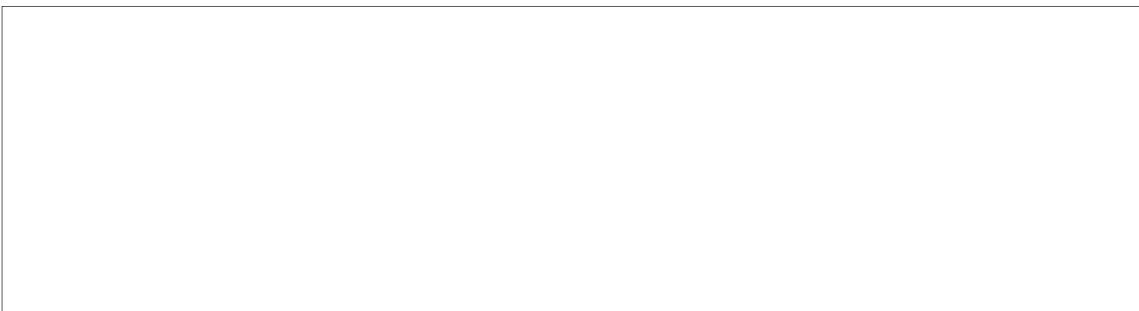
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

29 January 1968

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 5 January 1968

1. The COINS Committee met at NSA on 5 January 1968. Attending were:

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Mr. Charles Stein

STATE

2. Minutes of the meeting of 15 December 1967 were reviewed and approved.

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3. [redacted] NSA Data Systems Analyst briefed the committee on a machine format designed to facilitate recording of general information on COINS files to provide users an on-line reference to information on any aspect of COINS files. Each participating agency would compile and record all information on its files. NSA would consolidate all data, produce a master file tape and distribute copies to all other agencies for addition to their computer systems for on-line reference by users. Committee members were requested to study the format for a discussion at the next meeting.

4. As information on matters of interest, [redacted] distributed copies of a paper, "Functional Specifications for Typewriter Like Time-Sharing Terminals" by T. A. Dolotta, Princeton University and O. G. Selfridge, Lincoln Laboratory, M.I.T. This paper describes a typewriter-like terminal suitable for connection to a remote computer, and specifically user oriented rather than programmer or machine operator oriented.

25X1

5. Members were requested to carefully review correctness of the COINS file formats included in the Semiannual report prior to their publication in a single document on COINS files.

6. Final copies of Technical Memorandum of Agreement No. 1 on COINS communications were distributed for signature by representatives of the participating agencies.

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7. [redacted] informed members that DIA was now prepared to initiate a request to the Defense Commercial Communications Office of DCA for installation of data circuits to NPIC, CIA, NIC and State. He requested notification from each of these agencies of a specific date of circuit installation and names of persons to be contacted at each agency.

NSA review completed

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8. The draft paper on establishment of security levels for COINS was discussed. [redacted] CIA, suggested that the proposed specific list of subjects and security levels were too inflexible. Rather than try to establish fixed levels of classification in advance, more flexibility could be achieved by classifying the various documents and aspects of COINS based upon their actual content and a determination by the COINS Committee. In this manner a list of subjects could be developed with documents to provide a guide to and levels of security classification.

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9. [redacted] distributed copies of a draft charter for the Evaluation Panel. This paper was reviewed by [redacted] Panel Chairman and certain changes suggested by her were made. Mr. Stein will represent Department of State on the Panel. A representative should be named by NIC if that organization desires, and [redacted] will be replaced on the Panel by another representative of NPIC. [redacted] has also requested that a member be appointed by CIA to allow here to devote full attention to the work of the Panel.

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10. The next meeting was scheduled for 19 January 1968. 1000 hours, Friday at CIA. Items for the agenda will include:

- a. COINS file information data base format (See paragraph 3).
- b. Charter for the Evaluation Panel
- c. COINS Situation Papers 4 and 5.
- d. Draft TMA on "Guide for COINS File Panels".

[redacted]
Executive Secretary, COINS
Committee

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

27 December 1967

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 15 December 1967.

1. The COINS Committee met at NPIC on 15 December 1967. Attending were:

25X1

Mr. Charles Stein

State

marked 14 Jan

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 1 December were reviewed and approved.

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a. [redacted] clarified the intent of paragraph 6 on the extent of NSA contractor study of data retrieval languages. The NSA contractor is concerned with a study of all known user oriented languages, capabilities, advantages and disadvantages, etc. and formulation of recommendations for NSA on their use. As a part of this study, the contractor will include COINS participating agency languages in being or planned (NSA TILE, CIA TORQUE, DIA Formatted File System retrieval language). The study will not result in recommendations for COINS adoption of any language, but will provide a comparison of the different languages of the system for consideration by the COINS Committee in determining a course of action on this subject.

b. Relative to the above and reference paragraph 7, [redacted] 25X1 working within the framework of the Computer and Communications Interface Panel, will continue his study of development of a common network data retrieval language for COINS. This concept envisions the following:

(1) Users at COINS participating agencies would frame interrogations of COINS files at distant agencies in the local retrieval language.

(2) The local remote access computer system would have a library translator program to translate the local language into the network language.

(3) At the receiving agency the translator program translates the network language into the local language for retrieval operations.

(4) This concept would require each agency to write one translator program. Undesirable alternatives are:

(a) Users learning and applying the language of each of the other COINS agencies.

(b) Each agency provide the software to translate the local language into the language of the agency being interrogated.

c. Reference paragraph 3 relative to TMA No. 1 on COINS Communications.

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(1) [redacted] indicated CIA concurrence in TMA No. 1.

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(2) [redacted] stated that NSA communications personnel were of the belief that COINS communications circuits should be schedule 4B vice 4C as stated in paragraph 2; and that NSA requested that paragraph C be changed to state that speeds above 2400 BPS will not be considered prior to FY-70. The former problem has been referred to [redacted] DIA for resolution.

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3. [redacted] presented a memorandum (copy inclosed) on the subject of establishment or security classification levels for COINS. Members were requested to review the classification levels proposed, and to be prepared to discuss the matter at the next meeting.

4. A proposed TMA providing general guidance to COINS Panels concerned with data base requirements was presented for committee consideration.

5. Final copies of Part 1 of the COINS Semianual report were distributed to those attending. The balance of copies for each agency and Part 2 (in publication) will be distributed through courier channels.

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6. [redacted] reported the first exchange of user training classes between NSA and DIA. [redacted] will arrange a meeting with [redacted] of DIA to discuss further training courses to be conducted, and improvement of the courses. Mr. Stein wishes to monitor the next classes conducted.

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7. [redacted] urged committee members to determine agency reaction to the files planned for COINS I, what is required to better satisfy requirements, what additional data elements might be required, etc.

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8. [redacted] distributed copies of an NSA draft proposal for COINS development and management by means of an Executive Agent and Agency COINS Manager system. Basically, the COINS Executive Agency would be designated by a DCID. The director of the agency named would appoint an Executive Agent for system management, and a COINS Manager for that agency. Each of the other participating agencies would name COINS Managers. The host agency would provide all support services; the Executive Agent would plan, coordinate and manage the system; the COINS Managers would assist the Executive Agent and coordinate all activities within their respective agency. The proposal is currently being studied by NSA legal and comptroller personnel who are preparing briefs to be made available shortly.

Efforts to arrive at a solution for efficient and effective COINS management are most important, particularly in view of the fact that such a major interagency undertaking is without precedent and may serve as a prototype for future systems.

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9. [redacted] described an AMPEX video document retrieval system to be installed by NSA. Anyone interested in learning more about the system can be briefed.

10. Conduct of a "workshop" on the subject of computer networks is being considered by NSA. COINS Committee members were asked to consider interest in the workshop and extent of participation.

11. Copies of the second draft of COINS Situation papers No. 1-4 and the first draft of No. 5 were distributed for consideration and comment.

12. Members are requested to provide lists of the character sets and codes utilized in the computer and terminal equipment of their system.

13. The next committee meeting is scheduled at 1000 hours, 5 January 1968, at NSA. Members are requested to be prepared to comment and discuss the following:

- a. Proposed TMA on "Guide for COINS File Panels."
- b. Proposed management system.
- c. COINS security levels.
- d. Computer network workshop.



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Executive Secretary

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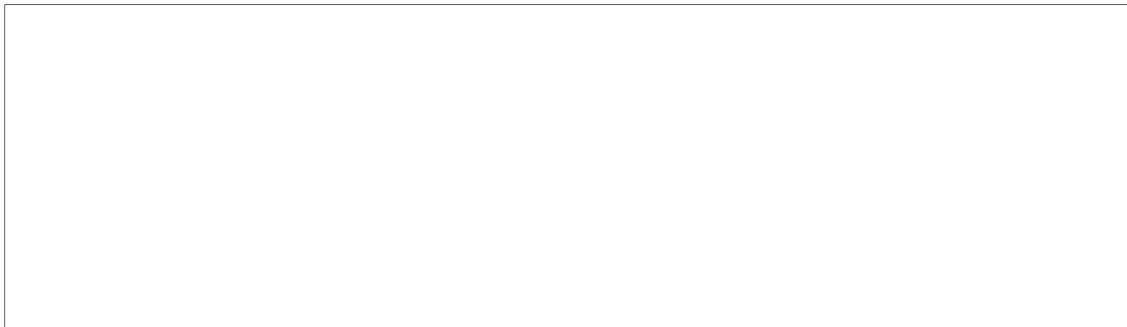
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

5 December 1967

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 1 December 1967 *mailed 1/2 Jan*

1. The COINS Committee met at DIA on 1 December 1967. Attending were:

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2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 17 November 1967 were reviewed and approved.

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3. [redacted] presented a final draft of Technical Memorandum of Agreement No. 1 on COINS communications (copy enclosed) committee members were requested to secure concurrence of their agency by the next meeting on 15 December 1967.

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4. [redacted] informed the committee that NSA intends presenting a proposal for establishing a COINS network which obviates the need for dedicated circuits and a central network "store and forward" switch such as that now installed and operated by DIA (Refer to the DIA publication, "DIA COINS Test Facilities and Implementation Guide"). NSA engineers will determine the feasibility of establishing computer to computer communications, as required for interrogation and response, by utilization of telephone company direct dial facilities. This method of operation is now commercially feasible, however COINS security requirements and utilization of crypto devices will complicate COINS use of a similar system. The NSA study must consider:

- a. Communications security requirements or restrictions.
- b. If adequate hardware is commercially available.
- c. What developmental effort is required if hardware is not commercially available.

The proposed system would have several distinct advantages over the present and planned modus operandi.

- a. It would obviate the need for CIA to assume the network switching function in FY 71 (See CCINS Committee Minutes of 17 Nov. 1967, para 2e) with resulting hardware and software costs. In the event of switch failure the network would be inoperable. The proposed system would obviate the need for a redundant switch and associated costs.

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b. Any queuing problem at the central switch would be eliminated and speed up communication.

c. Would allow extreme flexibility; each COINS participating computer system would work directly with the system of momentary interest at the security level required (e.g., A specific terminal at NSA could interrogate a specific file at NPIC and vice versa).

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5. [redacted] will try to have COINS Panel charters available by the next meeting.

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6. [redacted] informed the committee that an NSA contractor studying currently available info retrieval languages can also include a study of COINS participating agency languages. This is a part of the continuing study of the COINS network retrieval language problem.

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7. Relative to the retrieval language problem, [redacted] of DIA presented a paper with thoughts and proposals for solution of this pressing COINS problem. (Copy enclosed). [redacted] paper was very well received, and reflected the concensus of opinion of committee members.

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8. [redacted] was named as the DIA representative for technical and [redacted] for operational matters on the Evaluation Panel.

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9. The final draft of the COINS semi-annual status report was received and necessary changes made. Final publication will be accomplished as soon as possible.

10. The next committee meeting was scheduled for 1000 hours, Friday, 15 December 1967 at NPIC.

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[redacted]
Executive Secretary
COINS Committee

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COINS I - Technical Memorandum of Agreement #1

The Agencies in COINS I agree on the following points concerning data communications in support of the project:

- a. The leased communications lines will have schedule 4C transmission characteristics (except NIC).
- b. Computer to computer data links in the system will initially operate at 2400 baud utilizing the equipment shown on enclosure.
- c. Speeds above 2400 baud will be considered for the high speed computer to computer links. This change will be considered for FY 70.
- d. DIA will initiate the requisite procurement action associated with the circuits to NSA, STATE, CIA, NPIC, and NIC. Procurement of terminating equipment is the responsibility of each agency. (DIA will lease teletype equipment for NIC through FY 69.)
- e. DIA has funded for and will pay for all of the above lines through FY 69. Thereafter, each agency will transfer funds to DIA each year to pay for their line (Approximately [redacted] per year for 2400 baud cks). 25X3
- f. Communications equipment will be supplied in accordance with the code on the enclosure.
- g. Each participating agency will initiate the requisite correspondence to receive authorization for establishing the lines connecting the communications terminal equipment to their ADP equipment in accordance with existing communications security regulations pertinent to their respective agency.
- h. The problems of communications malfunctioning and their possible alleviation by the use of error detection and correction equipment, crypto automatic synchronization equipment etc., will be addressed in the COINS I evaluation. Signed: NSA _____, CIA _____, DIA _____, STATE _____, NPIC _____, NIC _____.

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COINS RETRIEVAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM

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[redacted] DIA

1. In addressing multiple language problems facing the COINS user, the operator should be required to learn only one query language. That language should be the same one which he uses to query his on-line system. This will make the COINS network transparent to the user, and one system in the network should not be affected by the addition or withdrawal of another system in the network.
2. In order to meet these requirements we propose a Common Communication Language. This language will be utilized for transfer of queries in the connecting links of COINS. Each computing system in the network will be required to write a meta language to convert from their language to the common language and from the common language into their language.
3. This approach to the problem has several advantages. The greatest advantage would be the flexibility afforded the total network, while causing minimum interference to the individual systems. Any system or the total network is not affected with the addition or withdrawal of a system. A system which has evolved to satisfy a purpose can enter the network by writing a meta language. A system that is initiated to enter the network can chose to write a meta language or use the Common Communication Language. The language could grow in complexity and usage as the network grows. Thus it would provide for a gradual evolution of a common language easing the impact upon time, money and technology.

SAC

4. The language should have at a minimum in the beginning all the capabilities required by the initial member systems. Each system could draw upon any capability which they desired at any time they desired. Additions could be made to the common language without affecting the participants. The participants could, at their own pace, make changes to take advantage of the additions.
5. We further propose that an ad hoc committee be set up to draw up specifications for such a language and that funds be made available for contracting efforts. The specifications should be in sufficient detail to permit competitive bidding from software houses.

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Approved For Release 2007/10/23 : CIA-RDP80B01139A000100150001-6

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

28 Nov 67

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 17 November 1967

1. The COINS Committee met at CIA on 17 Nov 1967. Attending were:

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Mr. Charles Stein	STATE
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Mr. Charles Stein STATE

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of 3 Nov 1967 were discussed and approved.

a. Paragraph 3 - Discussion of the COINS information retrieval language problem was continued.

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(1) [] stated that CIA prefers that the Committee attempt to reach agreement on adoption of a retrieval language currently existing or under development by one of the participating agencies.

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(2) [] suggested the possibility of employing a limited network language in which the desired file would be named, certain search parameters specified, and all records meeting the parameters moved from the file to a temporary file for further processing at the requesting agency. One obvious disadvantage of this approach is the necessity to transmit complete records when only a few data fields might be required.

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b. Paragraph 4b: [] announced the assignment of [] NSA Data Systems Analyst, to the task of designing a "COINS File Information" format, a draft of which should be available by 15 December 1967. COINS participating agencies will be responsible for recording in magnetic tape all specified information for their COINS files. NSA will then combine all information into one tape file, copies of which will be made available to all participants for incorporation into local computer systems for COINS file reference.

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c. Paragraph 5: [] expects to complete a draft of the final TMA No. 1 on COINS Communications by the next Committee meeting.

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d. Paragraph 5a: DIA has budgeted for payment of COINS circuit charges through FY-69. It will be necessary for COINS participants to pay individual circuit charges for FY-70 and subsequent years. For budgetary review and other purposes, Mr. Stein suggested some means be found for joint funding for COINS rather than a "bits and pieces" approach (e.g., All participants transfer funds to DIA for payment of circuit charges). [] will determine what the circuit charges from the DIA switch to each agency are.

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e. Paragraph 6: CIA was requested to plan assumption of the central COINS network switch function in FY-71.

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3. [] asked if [] had received any comments on the draft paper on COINS management drafted at NSA and being reviewed by the Legal Counsel and others. No comments have been received to date, and [] hopes to present the draft and any comments to the Committee as soon as possible.

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4. [] requested that all participating agencies other than NSA procure Western Electric Company Model 205 MODEM's for use on COINS circuits.

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5. DIA plans making their system and files available on-line to certain military commands, and questioned if COINS files of other agencies could also be available. The concensus of opinion was that other files in the system were available to DIA and that it was a decision of that organization to make them further available to DIA system subscribers.

6. Final draft copies of the COINS semi-annual report were distributed to the Committee. Any comments or changes were requested no later than 1 Dec 1967. Approval will be assumed in the absence of any comments.

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7. [] reported meeting with [] for a discussion of COINS status and progress. This group will meet on an informal basis to discuss COINS and other problems. Among these will be the groups consideration of the [] problem which will be assumed from the []. The Panel will continue to function as a working group, however [] group will determine policy and provide high level direction towards a solution of this community wide problem. In addition, the group will choose for study one specific, hopefully well defined, intelligence area of interest towards which COINS support will be directed. An attempt will be made to select an area of interest to which all COINS participants can contribute and make good use of the resulting data base.

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8. [] continues work on COINS Situation Papers to highlight and discuss specific COINS problems. Currently in preparation is a CSP on the data base problem. This paper will discuss the selection, management, data standards, etc. of COINS files.

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9. [] hopes to prepare and present for Committee consideration at the next meeting draft charters specifying COINS Panel tasks, terms of reference, etc.

10. The next Committee meeting is scheduled at DIA on Friday, 1 Dec at 1000.

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Executive Secretary
COINS Committee

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 3 November 1967

1. The COINS Committee met at NSA on 3 November 1967.

a. Attending:

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Mr. Charles Stein	STATE
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*The COINS Committee welcomes [redacted] who has been appointed DIA COINS Representative.

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2. [redacted] announced the appointment of [redacted] of CIA as Chairman, COINS Evaluation Panel vice, [redacted] who has left DIA.

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[redacted] visited [redacted] on 2 November for a discussion of the problem.

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3. Minutes of the meeting of 20 October were discussed and approved.

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a. Discussion of the COINS information retrieval language problem was continued. [redacted] distributed copies of four "COINS Situation Papers". These Situation Papers will be used as media for highlighting and discussing specific COINS problems. Situation Paper No. 1 concerns the retrieval language problem.

(1) Initially COINS users at the participating agencies must be multi-linguists (i.e., They must learn the retrieval languages of the other agencies), or they must use fixed, "canned" (i.e., stored program) interrogations. At this time it is not known if CIA will have canned interrogation programs available.

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(2) [redacted] of NSA will investigate the possibility of either of those organizations assuming responsibility for a comprehensive study of the language problem, either in-house or contractually.

(3) Other alternatives mentioned were:

(a) COINS Committee adoption of one participating agency language for use by all.

(b) Adoption of a subset of an existing language.

(c) Investigate any action on this problem by the National Bureau of Standards.

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Declassified 10/23/2007
Initial classification
and distribution by [redacted]

4. The importance of making COINS file information readily available to users at each participating agency was discussed. This information is of particular importance when a retrieval language is employed.

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a. [redacted] suggested the obvious possibility and advantages of having complete file information maintained in each agencies computer system for reference by COINS users at that agency. This method would obviate utilization of COINS circuits and switch between agencies to obtain file information.

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b. Re above, [redacted] mentioned the possibility of assembling, formatting and recording in magnetic tape all file information at NSA and distributing copies to all other agencies for addition to their systems.

5. A draft of Technical Memorandum of Agreement No. 1 containing agreements on COINS communications between the central switch and the participating agencies was given to [redacted] for preparation in final form.

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a. DIA has budgeted for COINS circuit charges through FY-69. It may be necessary for each other agency to budget for its circuit during subsequent years.

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6. [redacted] reported that CIA had made a preliminary study of the impact on CIA of that agencies assumption of the COINS switching function (now at DIA), possibly in the FY-71 time frame.

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7. [redacted] requested that DIA appoint a representative to the Evaluation Panel.

8. The next COINS Committee meeting was scheduled for Friday, 17 Nov at CIA. A principal topic of discussion will be all aspects of COINS data bases (e.g., their construction, maintenance and executive agency).

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[redacted]
Executive Secretary
COINS Committee

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

26 Oct 67

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 20 Oct 1967

1. The COINS Committee met at NPIC on 20 Oct 1967. A list of those attending is inclosed.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

25X1 3. [redacted] DIA COINS Committee member is leaving DIA, and appointment of a successor is still under consideration. [redacted] will probably act as principal DIA COINS Representative until a permanent representative is named.

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4. The principal purpose of this meeting was to conduct a survey of users information retrieval methods and languages being developed by the different COINS agencies for internal use; and to discuss various approaches to providing increased COINS information retrieval capability by the employment of a user oriented computer language. Dr. Lawrence Roberts of the DOD Advanced Research Projects Agency, a recognized authority in computer sciences was invited to attend the meeting to offer any assistance he can to aid the COINS Committee in its consideration of the user language problem. Also attending the meeting was Dr. John Egan, Staff Asst., Office of Special Asst.(Nat'l. Intel.) Director Defense R&E, Off of Sec. of Defense.

25X1 25X1 a. [redacted] briefed the group on DIA formatted file retrieval language. [redacted] presented the CIA language TORQUE, and [redacted] presented the NSA TILE language.

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b. One factor common to all of the retrieval languages described was the necessity for users knowledge of the existence of specific files and names for interrogation, file structure and content, date level, etc.

c. Dr. Roberts presented a brief description of a nationwide computer network sponsored by ARPA which will link together many diverse, multiple access computer systems of independent agencies and universities engaged in research. Some of the potential uses of this network are:

(1) Access to a language or computer utility not available locally.

(2) Remote use of a large program eliminating local reprogramming.

(3) Remote bulk computing power for a local machine which provides interactive input and presentation.

(4) A centralized program library with directory service and documentation storage.

Dr. Roberts has been involved in many of the same problems being faced by the COINS Committee. Among these are the user language problem and providing for multi-level security. Dr. Roberts expressed the opinion that development of a common COINS users language was not practical at this time.

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d. CONCLUSIONS: From the various presentations and discussions some conclusions can be drawn.

(1) There is a need for a computer assisted instruction (CAI) capability to be included in each of the participating systems which at a minimum permits COINS users to request the following information.

(a) A list of files available for interrogation in a specified system (e.g., at DIA).

(b) A list of elements of information in a specified file

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(c) A list of files in which specific data elements or data element sets are included [redacted] and the agency system in which they are included.

(d) A list of "canned" interrogations that can be used against a specific file or set of files.

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(e) A description of information in specified fields.

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1 Finite list of data items

[redacted]

2 Recording conventions when no such finite list exists.

(2) Initially in COINS, data retrieval can be accomplished by the use of sets of "canned" interrogations.

(3) For those desiring greater retrieval capability, individual COINS agency retrieval languages can be learned and applied.

(4) A limited COINS common language capability should be made available to permit users to:

(a) Specify file or files

(b) Specify limited search criteria using simple Boolean and, or, not expressions

Boolean

(c) Select all applicable records from specified files and move to the local system for follow on processing using local language.

(5) At a future date possibly develop translator systems.

5. The next COINS Committee meeting was scheduled for Friday, 3 Nov at NSA.

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[redacted]
Executive Secretary
COINS Committee

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Approved For Release 2007/10/23 : CIA-RDP80B01139A000100150001-6

23 Oct 67

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 5 Oct 67

1. The COINS Committee met at NPIC on 5 Oct 1967. Attending were:

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2. Discussions

- a. Minutes of the meeting of 21 September 1967 were reviewed and approved.

(1) Reference paragraph 2b. No objections were forthcoming on
NSA inclusion

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(2) Paragraph 2j. As a continuing subject of considerable importance, at the next committee meeting [redacted] will submit a draft of a proposed method of COINS management utilizing the Executive Agent or Project Manager system.

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b. The draft of a short COINS Status Report was reviewed. No objections were voiced and the report will be issued. Completion of a comprehensive semi-annual report is contingent upon receipt of certain data from COINS participating agencies.

c. Short and long term COINS objectives (FY-69 - 70 time frame) were discussed at length. It was generally concluded that some improvements in the currently planned system could be foreseen and were practical and possible; however, any longer term objectives of consequence could not be formulated until after a reasonable period of COINS use (probably at the end of FY-69). A summary of suggested objectives submitted by COINS participants is inclosed.

d. Dr. Roberts of the DOD Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), will be invited to the next committee meeting for a discussion of COINS user languages.

e. The next meeting was originally scheduled for 19 Oct 1967 at NSA, however, at the time of this writing, the meeting has been changed to Friday, 20 Oct at 1000 hours at NPIC to facilitate attendance by Dr. Roberts (See para 2d.). All committee members are urged to notify [redacted] of NPIC of their planned attendance, or attendance of others, particularly those concerned with user languages.

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Executive Secretary
COINS Committee

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SUGGESTED
COINS OBJECTIVES

Following are listed some objectives for COINS suggested by CIA, NSA and NIC. No particular time frame for accomplishment, or acceptance as a valid objective is indicated. At a later date the COINS Committee will list those objectives considered valid and the projected time frame in which attainable.

1. Establish an experimental computer-based system which permits an intelligence officer of one agency to retrieve information from files of another agency without leaving his own agency or building.
2. Evaluate the system and determine those system elements and system attributes which are critical to the success of an operational system.
3. Develop objectives and specifications for an operational system. Determine the resources required to develop the operational system and prepare a plan for its development and implementation.
4. USIB has compiled lists of specific indicators or acts of probable preparation for war by potential aggressors. Each indicator is assigned an alpha-numerical code for use in intelligence reports for indexing purposes.

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An all source message file should be created in COINS and structured to permit retrieval by this three element code. Such a file would be very useful in the organization and collation of data, and ease the clerical burden inherent in all analytical problems. The file would serve most COINS members since nearly all agencies have warning/indications responsibilities.

5. Related to the above would be some method of providing an index to the intelligence reports of participating agencies (e.g., an index of key words in the report title)

6. If system usage requires, increase data link rates from present 2400 BPS to 4800 BPS.

7. Each participating agency system include provisions for remote file maintenance as rapidly as new information becomes available.

8. 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 analog form.

9. After a reasonable period of COINS experimental use, an evaluation of current files should be made by a panel. The panel should then conduct an objective study of intelligence community file requirements irrespective of current files or organizational constraints and recommend files for COINS. Once specified, the file should be created by a specified participating agency.

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10. COINS should include provisions for multi-level security which provides for foolproof, limited user access to certain files.

11. Users should receive answers to interrogations in less than 15 minutes unless unusual circumstances prevail, in which case they will be notified.

12. Develop specifications for a computer independent retrieval or meta language. Three agencies (CIA, DIA, NSA) are currently developing separate system languages (TORQUE, ISIC, TILE respectively) each of which will have to be learned by COINS users to interrogate the files of these agencies.

13. The central communication switch should be made redundant to provide uninterrupted service in the event of master switch failure. Or, some elementary form of alternate routing could be provided. Each agency could have two circuits, one to the switch and one to another agency. Each agency would act in an emergency as a crude switch passing critical messages around the central switch. Software could be designed to sharply limit the amount and type of traffic passed.

14. 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. 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?"

15. 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 him) 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.

16. The practical realities of planning and operating a system such as COINS require an effective and efficient management system. An immediate objective of the COINS Committee should be the formulation of recommendations to higher authority on this aspect.

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TAB

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

26 September 1967

SUBJECT: Minutes of COINS Committee Meeting of 21 September 1967.

1. The COINS Committee met at DIA on 21 September 1967. Attending were:

25X1

[REDACTED]

2. Discussions

a. Minutes of the meeting of 7 September 1967 were reviewed and accepted.

(1) Reference paragraph 2c (3). [REDACTED] stated that the NPIC file entitled, "All Source File" will initially include only SECRET classified data.

25X1

(2) Paragraph 2c (5). [REDACTED] questioned the status of the short COINS quarterly status report to be issued. This report has yet to be completed, but will be issued as soon as possible.

25X1

c. [REDACTED] questioned if any information was known on USIB action to discontinue CODIB and establish the Information Handling Committee. No further information is available.

25X1

d. [REDACTED] reported that COINS circuit activation between DIA and all COINS agencies (except NSA which is currently connected) would be available approximately 1 March 1968. There is some question if the NIC terminal will be ready at that time.

e. In view of developments subsequent to preparation of Technical Memorandum of Agreement Number 1 on COINS communications, and the fact that TMA has not yet been signed by participating agencies, it will be redrafted to eliminate historical information and distributed for signature.

f. The Remote Computer Transmission Panel recently published and distributed the document, "DIA Test Facilities and Implementation Guide" part one of which contains information of interest to and affecting all COINS participants. Due to the technical complexity of the information, the committee decided against formalization of the document by means of a TMA. Any system changes will be coordinated within the Remote Computer Transmission Panel. Any dissents will be referred to the COINS Committee for resolution.

GROUP-3
Downscaled at 12 year

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g. In the spring of 1968 DIA will replace the IBM 1410 used in its information retrieval system with an IBM 360/50H, however the IBM 7740 (switch) will remain.

25X1

h. [redacted] reported that the ambiguities of CIA representation on the [redacted] had been cleared up, and that CIA would be officially represented, probably in the person of [redacted] 25X1 25X1

25X1

i. [redacted] again mentioned the request of the Collection Research Division, Directorate of Collection, ACSI USAF (AFNICC) located at NSA for a COINS terminal. DIA was requested to inform the Chairman if it had any objections to AFNICC access to DIA COINS files through the NSA terminals.

25X1

j. A lengthy discussion was held on possible methods of COINS management. [redacted] briefed the Committee on the DOD System/Project Management approach. No conclusions were reached.

25X1

k. Pending action on dissolution of CODIB and establishment of the Information Handling Committee (if this is the case) a suggestion was made by [redacted] for the Committee to formulate a statement of COINS objectives and plans. The chairman requested that members formulate a list of realistic, short term (1969-1970 period) COINS objectives for discussion at the next meeting.

3. The Committee will meet again on Thursday, 5 October, at 1000 hours at NPIIC. [redacted] 25X1

Executive Secretary

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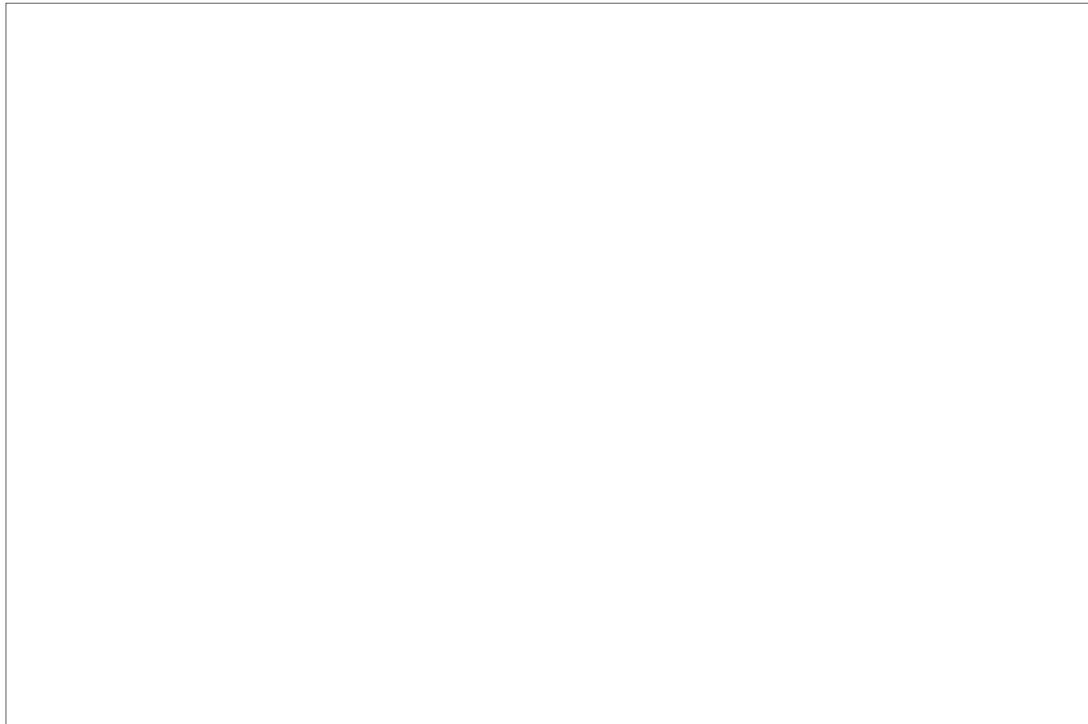
11 Oct 66

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 5 October 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 5 October 1966 at 1000 hours.
2. The following individuals were present:

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3. Drafts of the minutes of the last COINS meeting were passed out to members. Since these minutes contained their status reports, the Chairman asked them to review the minutes and report any changes by the next COINS meeting.

25X1 4. [REDACTED] CODIB, called the Chairman to inform him that the DCI had signed the COINS Progress Report. [REDACTED] CIA reported, however, that the letter authorizing the participation of the CIA organization had not yet been signed.

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25X1

25X1 5. The Chairman announced that since the last COINS Meeting, meetings had been held [REDACTED]. In addition, a DIA/NSA meeting was held on the subject of the training requirements for the COINS Experiment. It was generally agreed that the training requirements could be broken down into four broad categories:

- a. The general concept of COINS
- b. NSA-TILE User Language Course
- c. DIA - ISIC User Language Course
- d. Courses on the FILES

GROUP 3

DECLASSIFIED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS;
NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED

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(1) General description of the contents, currency and accuracy of files, including specific interrogations which are routinely available.

(2) Sponsor of each file should arrange a briefing for each user.

(3) Each Agency agreed to develop an outline for each course indicating the length of time, topics to be covered and the target date for the beginning of the training.

(4) The following are some rough "guesstimates" as to the number of personnel to be trained. It should be noted that the NSA training of NSA personnel is something that would be done in TIPS, regardless of COINS. Therefore, one should not be led to believe that these requirements are being generated solely by COINS.

25X1

ORGANIZATION	COURSE	NSA	DIA	CIA	NPIC	STATE
NSA	General Course					
	TILE Users Language					
	FILES					
DIA	ISIC Users Language					
	FILES					
CIA	Users Language					
	FILES					
NPIC	FILES					

(5) NSA would like some slots in an early DIA ISIC users language course in order to develop a translator program (i.e., TILE to ISIC).

(6) Members were asked to be ready at the next COINS meeting to:

(a) Provide the numbers of people at their agencies

(b) Provide the person to be contacted for the next training meeting.

(c) Make suggestions as to content of the courses listed above, or suggest any additional courses that should be added.

(7) Since NPIC will be using the NSA system, NSA will provide any necessary training for NPIC personnel.

6. On 30 September, NSA, DIA and IEM personnel met relative to the Communications Switch at DIA (i.e., the IBM 7740).

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a. indicated that IBM was waiting for the CRT

photographs promised by [redacted]

b. [REDACTED] DIA, will modify the communications paper in accordance with changes requested by IBM.

7. NSA, will call together representatives from NSA, DIA, CIA, NPIC and STATE to develop the procedures for handling the KG-13's when they are out of set condition.

8. [redacted] DIA reported that [redacted] DIA, had suggested that an Evaluation Panel be established. Members tentatively agreed.

DIA, pointed out that problems arise when too many panels are formed.

9. described a first model of COINS I. The model includes only the generation rates of Queries, Responses, Receipts, and Releases and the competition of these messages for the scarce resources of words of core memory and of memory cycles. The "region of interesting behavior" was discussed and a message "filter effect" was identified. If the communications switch has limited core words available and if incoming messages, once refused because of lack of space, continue to try to enter (at fifteen second intervals), then the population of refused messages becomes richer and richer in large messages. The simulation showed that unless special priorities are given to large messages, or unless a refused message is given a higher priority each time it is refused, the large messages (which would generally be Responses) will suffer large delays.

The skeleton of a second, more complex, model (written by [redacted]) was described and several corrections to the model were made by members of the Committee. A meeting will be held at 1300 hours on 12 September 1966 among the systems designers and the simulators to exchange questions and information needed for a more accurate simulation model of COINS I.

10. Evaluation

a. The following procedures were proposed for evaluating COINS and are designed to: (1) reduce subjective influences and (2) establish a numerical score for all items and categories being evaluated. This procedure is also designed to minimize the amount of effort required by the personnel being evaluated as well as reduce the amount of narrative comments required. Narrative comments are useful and should be encouraged when the person scoring the evaluation form believes that they would be useful. However, such comments are often ambiguous and can not be reduced to a numerical value for manipulation.

b. The technical and operational evaluations will be conducted by three distinct groups of people and each group having a different responsibility.

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(1) Each member of this group will independently set the weights for each major category to be evaluated (i.e., interrogations, users, file, communications, etc.) by distributing a 100 points between these categories.

(2) Each member will submit in an unmarked sealed envelope to the Chairman of the Evaluation Control Group who will not open them but hold them until after the evaluation is completed.

(3) After the Evaluation has been completed the envelopes will be opened at a joint session of the Evaluation Control Group and the COINS Committee. At this joint session the average weights for each category will be established and applied to the raw average scores collected during the evaluation.

(4) The members of this group should be identified and could be composed of CODIB, GEP, or senior officials in each participating Agency, etc.

d. Role of COINS Committee: This Committee will be responsible for:

(1) Identifying the specific items to be evaluated within each category.

(2) Distributing the 100 points allocated to each category among each of the items to be evaluated thereby setting the maximum score for each item within a category. (See Display I for sample Evaluation Form).

(3) Conducting the actual evaluation by:

(a) Distributing the evaluation forms at the mutually agreed upon time.

(b) Educating the personnel involved in the evaluation on how to properly fill out the evaluation form.

(c) Collecting and averaging out the scores for each item and category.

e. Group Being Evaluated

(1) Each participating organization will be given a number of evaluation forms to be scored during the evaluation period (e.g., 15 forms to each Agency). These will be scored by users, file sponsors, communicators, systems analysts, managers, security personnel, programmers, etc., associated with the COINS Experiment.

(2) Personnel being Evaluated will:

(a) Score only items in those categories with which they are familiar. For example, communicators would not be expected to evaluate files.

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(b) Encourage to include narrative comments when they believe such comments would be useful in supporting or explaining their scores.

(c) Encourage to make recommendations on how to improve the system.

f. Final Phase

(1) The COINS Committee will collect the evaluation forms from each participating Agency and average out the scores for each item and category regardless of the submitting organization.

(2) Upon completion of this process the COINS Committee will prepare a draft evaluation report containing:

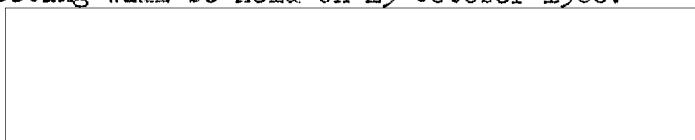
(a) Raw averaged scores for each item and category.

(b) Summary of the pertinent narrative comments submitted by the group being evaluated.

(c) Tabulation of quantitative statistics collected during the evaluation period (e.g., average response time for interrogation by hour, average number interrogations by Agency and hour, etc.)

(3) Then the Evaluation Control Group (to be designated) and the COINS Committee will meet in joint session. At this time the sealed envelopes will be opened and the weights for each category will be completed and applied to the "Raw Average Scores" contained in the draft evaluation report.

11. The next COINS Meeting will be held on 19 October 1966.



Chairman, COINS Committee

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CATEGORIES TO BE EVALUATED	MEMBERS OF EVALUATION CONTROL GROUP					AVERAGE WEIGHTS PER CATEGORY
	A	B	C	D	E	
INTERROGATIONS	10	50	10	20	30	24
USERS	40	10	30	50	25	31
COMMUNICATIONS	20	10	10	10	25	15
FILES	30	30	50	20	20	30
	100	100	100	100	100	100

DISPLAY I

(SAMPLE EVALUATION FORM)

CATEGORY I (100 Points)

<u>ITEM NO.</u>	<u>FILES</u>	<u>MAX. POINTS</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
1.	Is the information contained in the files complete enough to satisfy your requirements?	40	_____
2.	Is the information in the files current enough to satisfy your requirements?	40	_____
3.	Are abbreviations or codes used in input/output adequate?	20	_____

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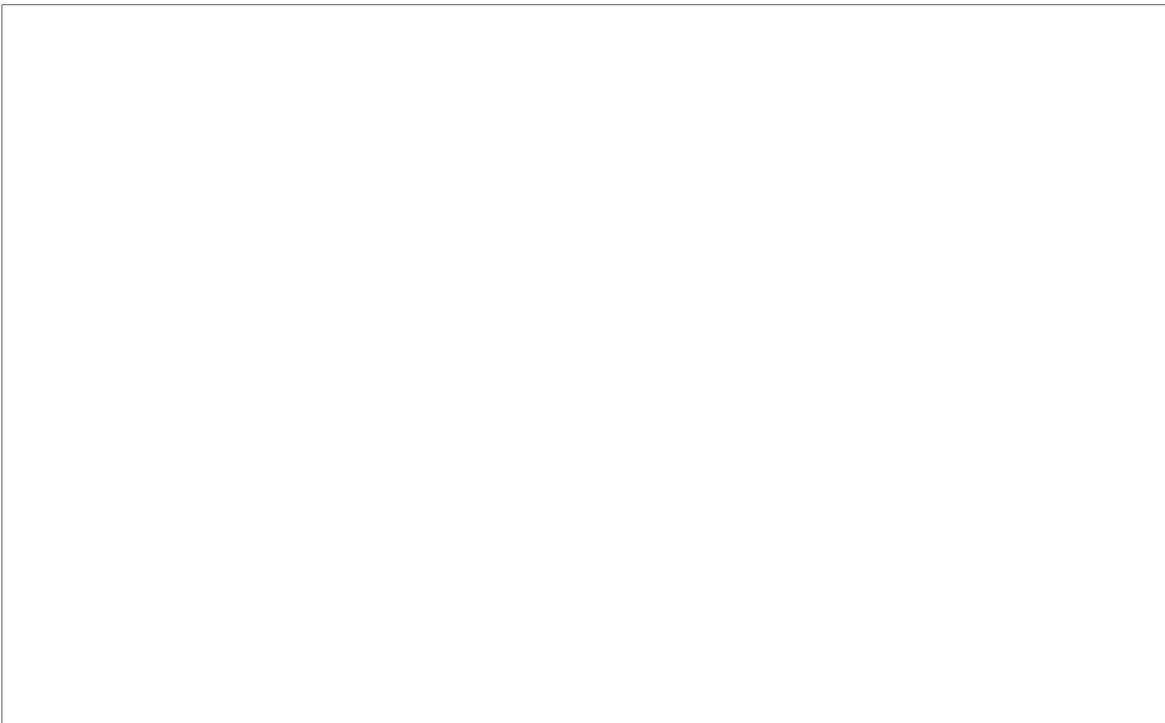
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

5 Oct 66

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 21 September 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 21 September 1966 at 1000 hours.
2. The following individuals were present:

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25X1 3. [redacted] DIA, indicated that National Indications Center (NIC) has informally requested a remote terminal in the COINS Experiment. He is now in the process of submitting a formal request through channels.

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25X1 4. [redacted] DIA, stated that the DIA Answer System (i.e., ANSRS) is being designed around the GE 635 and may replace the existing ISIC Query System (i.e., IBM 1410). The GE 635 system will also use the IBM 7740 as a switch. (This is the same device to be used for the COINS Experiment.)

5. Training.

25X1 a. [redacted] Mr. Slaughter, STATE, are in agreement that three slots are available to State Department personnel in the DIA ISIC query language course. Other members expressed an interest in sending personnel to this course. Necessary arrangements will be made as soon as possible.

b. A discussion took place with respect to the kinds of training that will be required in the COINS Experiment.

(1) User Language

(a) For data processing personnel who are to write translation programs

GROUP-3

Downgraded at 12 year
Intervals; not

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Approved For Release 2007/10/23 : CIA-RDP80B01139A000100150001-6

(b) [redacted] or potential users who are to [redacted] the language to interrogate the files.

(2) Files - User-oriented briefings on content and currency (i.e., date level of information) of files including discussion of available specific or "canned" interrogations.

c. [redacted] DIA, was invited to submit a paper at the next meeting with regard to training requirements for the COINS Experiment.

6. Source Information

a. There was some discussion as to the need for source information with respect to each record in the file and each data element within a record.

b. The following points were agreed upon:

(1) At this point it would be extremely difficult to include source information for every element in every record.

(2) Sources of information are frequently sensitive, or more highly classified than the actual information itself.

(3) Some files in the COINS Experiment already contain Basic (i.e., source) information. Therefore, in the COINS Experiment there will be no attempt to require that this information be included in every record or for every data element.

(4) The subject of Source Information will be treated on a file by file basis.

(5) If a user needs to know the source and validity of any information, he will be required to contact the file sponsor.

7. Classification. Discussions were also held with respect to the subject of classification. It was generally agreed that:

a. Each file would be classified according to the highest classification of material in the file, and

b. No attempt will be made to classify each record or data element in the file unless the responsible Agency desires to take such action.

8. Date-of-Entry/Update. There was discussion relative to the need for a date in each record to give the user some appreciation for the date level of the information extracted. There seemed to be a concensus of opinion that such a date should be included at the time a record is entered and changed each time any element of information in the record is updated.

9. Status Report

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(1) General - The letter which will permit CIA and NPIC to participate in COINS has not been signed.

(2) Software - The necessary software including a single users language is almost complete and interrogations of the data base have been simulated using the IBM 1050 or IBM 2260 (i.e., remote terminals).

(3) Communications

(a) Specifications for two pieces of interface hardware have been completed:

1 IBM 2701 High speed (i.e., 2400 BPS) interface equipment to permit secure computer-to-computer communications. Estimated date of delivery is 01 December 1966.

2 IBM 2702 Low speed (i.e., 100 WPM) interface equipment for communication between the CIA computer (i.e., IBM 360/50) and the remote terminals in the CIA Headquarters Building at Langley, Va. The equipment is scheduled for delivery and installation in October 1966.

(b) The necessary communications and crypto-equipment (i.e., one each MODEM, HN9 and KG-13) will not be available for approximately 180 days after the procurement funds are approved.

(4) Remote Terminals. There will be approximately 8 remote terminals located throughout the CIA Headquarters Building. These remote terminals will be either IBM 2250's, IBM 2260's or IBM 1050's.

(5) Files. Although five files have been nominated by CIA for the COINS Experiment, they have not been officially confirmed.

b. [redacted]

(1) Software. The NSA RYE/TIPS "PILOT" systems software has been successfully transferred to the UNIVAC 490 at NPIC. Personnel from NPIC will continue to work with NSA on the new UNIVAC 494 RYE/TIPS software.

(2) Communications. Communications and Crypto-equipment is in the same status as CIA's

(3) Remote terminals. There will be approximately 8 remote terminals of the ASR 35 class in NPIC.

(4) File. The file is still in the process of being designed and redesigned.

c. STATE (Mr. Lawrence Slaughter)

(1) The funding necessary for participation in the COINS Experiment has been approved.

(2) The communications people have been alerted and are ready to participate when required.

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(3) There is concern about the problem of training analysts to use the ISIC system. State hopes to take advantage of training at DIA when the next course is offered.

25X1

d. NSA [redacted]

(1) Software

(a) The COINS System rides the back of TIPS. All TIPS activity is accomplished via a Data Management and Recovery medium having a system hierarchy consisting of three levels of sophistication. The prescribed levels are; Real-Time, Executive, and Worker. The design of the COINS Software necessarily crosses all three levels. Therefore, extensive modifications and new controls must be added to the real-time and executive levels of the TIPS System.

(b) REAL-TIME - In the TIPS/RYE interim upgrade, the TIPS real-time program resides in the master 494 while all executive functions and worker proceedings resides in the slave 490. It is within this area that significant work remains outstanding due primarily to the massive conceptual redesign of the total RYE system. While the pertinent TIPS/COINS system definition and design, the executive techniques and its communications are fully known and developed, there still remains the physical structuring and interface of the additional COINS routines into the real-time program. Modifications are also required in the Slave REX and RYE real-time programs. These, however, cannot be affected until the system is in the upgraded master/slave mode.

(c) EXECUTIVE - The executive level of the system serves as the interface between the master real-time program, and the slave worker level. Within this level lies the major NSA efforts to implement COINS. Extensive modifications must be made to the existing executive primarily to provide the environmental security demanded by NSA. The Executive level is also the system's directorate, providing all internal control and bookkeeping. COINS job queues are generated, maintained and exhausted via subsequent processing. Currently eleven executive routines have been projected to satisfy the requirements of COINS. Said executive level of COINS is approximately 90% defined, object coding has begun with some spot debugging.

(d) WORKER - The worker level from the systems view is a bit of a misnomer. Here the objective is the interfacing macros that provide the necessary communications between the scheduling executive and the object worker program. The macros are approximately 65% defined, object coding approaches definition.

(2) Communications. The communications and crypto-equipment required for the NSA end of the link to DIA is available and will be ready by 1 Dec 66.

(3) Remote Terminals. There are approximately 80 remote terminals operating throughout the NSA Operations Building and theoretically any interrogation can come from any one of these stations.

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(4) Files. The files are currently in machineable form and will have to be reformatted to fit into the TIPS environment.

25X1

e. DIA(1) Software

DIA has formulated the procedures to be followed by the COINS Switch. Sufficient agreement has been reached between NSA and DIA to permit program design for the IBM 7740 (COINS I Switch). The COINS I Switch log has been designed and may be a DIA COINS I file in itself. General program design criteria have been outlined. No major points of concern exist concerning the switching procedures. NPIC and CIA have not commented on the Switch procedures.

(2) Communications

(a) Some difficulty is being experienced in the switch, but hopefully, this can be overcome by 1 December 1966. NSA will attempt to acquire a recording of a test signal which meets military specification 188B for IBM. The IBM 7740 is scheduled for delivery in November 1966.

(b) Software for the switch will be available in November 1966.

(c) The four-phase adapter necessary for computer-to-computer operation is scheduled for delivery in November 1966.

(d) Full scale operation of the switch at DIA is tentatively scheduled for March 1967.

(3) Remote Terminal. There will be approximately 8 terminals in DIA. The low speed interface should be available this week.

25X1

(5) Training. The Air Force Training Command at Lowery AFB has agreed to provide DIA with an instructor for a year to teach a course related to COINS.

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11. The primary subject for the next COINS meeting at 1000, 5 October 1966 will be the Evaluation of the COINS Experiment.

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Chairman, COINS Committee

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13 Sep 66

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 7 September 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 7 September 1966.
2. The following individuals were present:

[Redacted]

25X1

3. The minutes of the last meeting were not ready, but will be mailed and then reviewed at the next meeting.

25X1

4. [Redacted] CIA, indicated that the letter authorizing CIA organizations, (i.e., NPIC and the CIA Computer Center) to participate in the COINS Experiment has still not been signed. The letter was sent to [Redacted] on about 19 August 1966.

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25X1

5. [Redacted] indicated that:

25X1

a. [Redacted] CIA CODIB member, had affirmed the above situation at the CODIB meeting of 30 August 1966.

b. This will probably cause a three to six months delay in the participation of CIA and NPIC in the COINS Experiment.

c. The initial effort in the COINS Experiment will be restricted to State Department, DIA and NSA.

25X1

6. The draft paper entitled COINS Computer Communications has been coordinated with DIA and the State Department. However, [Redacted] and [Redacted] NPIC, are unable to obtain the necessary concurrence until the letter mentioned in paragraphs 4 and 5 above has been signed.

25X1

GROUP 3
DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS:
NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED.

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7. The following [redacted] the panels which have been established by the COINS Committee; each followed by its Chairman.

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25X1

8. [redacted] have reached a tentative agreement on the computer message formats. The Chairman asked CIA and NFIC to have their representatives contact [redacted] as soon as possible to work out their interface problems.

25X1

25X1

25X1

10. [redacted] indicated that he had been asked by [redacted] Chairman of CODIB, and Mr. Charles Briggs, CIA, to look into the costs and the possibility of permitting CIA to add files to the NSA system and have an outstation located at CIA, Langley, Va. [redacted] said he would look into this when he has time, probably within a month.

25X1

25X1

25X1

11. [redacted] asked each committee member to present oral and written status reports by the next meeting. He particularly emphasized a status report on the switch at DIA.

25X1

25X1

12. [redacted] NSA, agreed to brief [redacted] on 26 September 1966 on the TILE users language.

25X1

13. Mr. Slaughter, State, asked DIA when they could begin training State Department personnel in the use of the ISIC query language. DIA will look into the possibility of providing this training during October or November 1966.

25X15X1

25X1

14. A meeting to begin developing a simulation model of COINS I was held on 29 August 1966 between [redacted] NSA and [redacted] IBM Contractor at DIA, who is responsible for the switch. [redacted] indicated that the format for the logging tape has not yet been established.

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16. The problem of including the source of information in COINS was discussed at length. How much is it feasible to include, and in what form? 25X1

- a. Type of source
- b. Date of source
- c. Title of source
- d. Location of information in source
 - (1) Volume number
 - (2) Page number
- e. Language of source

17. The following are some of the difficult problems associated with the inclusion of the above information in each record:

- a. The source information required is:
 - (1) Not available in the present record, and it is virtually impossible to go back and recover this kind of information.
 - (2) Not available in common terms, nor in terms which have a one-for-one relationship. Therefore, whatever procedure is adopted must start with agreement.
- b. Each data element within a given record may have been derived from a different source. Provision must be made to indicate the source of each element within a record including essential information associated with the source.

c. Standardization of Source References 25X1

(1) The names of the sources from which information was originally derived are not always available in the selected for COINS I. However, even when the source information is available, there is a wide divergence in the manner in which this type of information is represented in the record, as well as in the amount of detail provided.

(2) A cursory examination of the different methods of abbreviating or representing the names of sources was conducted. The review substantiated the fact that each file has adopted its own methods for indicating source. It should be kept in mind that the names of sources are variable in length. Therefore, it is appropriate to develop a short, standard method for abbreviating or representing the names of each source. However, there are a couple of key points to be considered with respect to developing a standard in this area:

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(a) The simplest method would be to assign a unique code to each source, which in turn would necessitate either an automatic table look-up in the system or a manual look-up in a catalogue outside the system.

(b) Another method would be to assign standard mnemonic codes to the sources, making it easier for the users to remember, thereby minimizing the need for automatic or manual look-ups.

25X1

18. [redacted] DIA, indicated that CIA was responsible for maintaining a master reference document with respect to sources. [redacted] CODIB Support Staff, was asked to find out if such a list existed.

25X1

19. The possibility of asking that [redacted] Chairman of the CODIB Sub-Committee on Standards (SOS), be assigned the job of developing standard data elements relative to source was discussed. [redacted] said he would discuss this possibility with [redacted]

25X1

25X1

20. [redacted] to provide a list of items to be used in the technical evaluation of users (e.g., ease of using remote terminals, security, accessibility).

25X1

25X1

21. [redacted] distributed copies of a check list used to evaluate document retrieval systems. This check list was extracted from a document prepared by Human Sciences Research, Inc. entitled "Methodology for Test and Evaluation of Document Retrieval Systems; A Critical Review and Recommendations."

25X1

25X1

22. [redacted] DIA, indicated that consideration should be given to preventive maintenance. The IBM 7040 is scheduled to be down for a four hour period once a week. It was suggested that sometime Sunday night would be appropriate.

25X1

25X1

23. [redacted] indicated that NRIC had successfully made their first test interrogation using the RYE/TIPS software provided by NSA.

25X1

25X1

24. [redacted] indicated his interest in obtaining more information relative to the kinds of information that can be retrieved from DIA [redacted] in COINS I. [redacted] will arrange for someone at DIA to contact [redacted] and set up initial briefings.

25X1

25X1

25. [redacted] CIA, distributed copies of items to be considered in evaluating COINS I relative to user terminals, servicing computers and switching computers. (Copies attached).

25X1

26. The following is to be discussed at the next meeting, 21 September 1966:

a. Evaluation - Copies of everything to date have been pulled together and will be distributed before the next meeting.

25X1

b. Central File Concept.

25X1

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

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CQIB

6 Sep 66

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 31 August 1966

25X1 1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 31 August 1966.

2. Attendance was as follows:

[Redacted]

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25X1 4. The draft Communication Paper is still pending. [Redacted]
is still awaiting official word before he can obtain a concurrence.

[Redacted]

a. Amount of duplication and if there is duplication how can it
be eliminated or reduced to an acceptable level.

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25X1 b. Extent to which common standard data elements if any can be adopted.

a. Standardization of data elements

b. Inclusion of the following information with respect to source in every record:

- (1) Type of Source
- (2) Date of Source
- (3) Title of Source
- (4) Locations of information in Source
 - (a) Volume Number
 - (b) Page Number
- (5) Security Classification
- (6) Validity of Information

c. Obtain answers to the questions contained in paragraph 7 of the Minutes of the COINS Meeting of 17 August 1966, dated 23 August 1966. Answers to these questions will assist the COINS Committee in developing the Operational Evaluation Program.

25X1 8. [redacted] discussed four problem areas relative to the files in COINS I. (See Inclosure II.)

- a. Files in a Remote Access System
- b. Types of Duplications in COINS I
- c. Central File Concept
- d. Intelligence Reporting by Exception

25X1 9. [redacted] distributed some informal views with respect to what is expected of COINS I. (See Inclosure III.) Paper was discussed and all participants were asked to review the paper for the next meeting.

25X1 10. [redacted] distributed some "think" questions for evaluating files and interrogations. All participating members were asked to add, delete, or modify these questions (See Inclosure IV.).

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- 25X1 11. [redacted] was asked to prepare a paper on the questions to be asked in a technical evaluation with respect to communications. Specifically the paper should cover such topics as communications hardware including data links, encryption equipment and the communications switch both hardware and software. Multi-level security problem was again discussed.
- 25X1 12. [redacted] will prepare draft of all discussion relative to evaluation of COINS I by the next meeting.
13. Suggest everyone re-read the chapter on files in the COINS Implementation Plan, dated 25 May 1966. Particularly paragraph 7, "Problem of Duplicate Information in COINS".
- 25X1 14. [redacted] pointed out that the files in COINS I are facts of varying degrees of validity. Judgements and conclusions reached by analysts based on these facts are a separate matter.
- 25X1 15. [redacted] indicated that there should be some way of alerting the participating Agencies whenever some significant information is added to a file.
- 25X1 16. [redacted] were introduced as the individuals who will be doing the simulation of COINS I. A meeting was arranged with DIA [redacted] to discuss the log to be maintained by the communications switch. Members were invited to define problems for simulation.

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[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

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PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE FILES IN COINS I

1. Files in a Remote Access System:

What files should or should not be included in an on-line remote access system such as COINS? It is recognized that not all of the formatted files in the Intelligence Community can or need be included in such a system. What is the criteria for determining whether or not a file should or should not be included in an on-line, remote access system?

a. Dynamic vs. Static Files: One proposition states that only dynamic files should be included in an on-line, remote access system, and static files should never be included in such a system.

(1) Dynamic files are defined as those files which are accessed frequently for either the purpose of (a) interrogating or (b) updating.

(2) Static files are the opposite as they are those files which are seldomly accessed for the purpose of either interrogation or file maintenance.

(3) How often need a file be accessed to be considered dynamic or static?

b. Historical vs. Current Information

(1) Should historical as well as current information be available on-line in a remote access system? What is the criteria for differentiating between current and historical information? These and similar questions provoke a hue of arguments both pro and con. Following are some of the many catch phrases concerning this problem which merely confuse the issues.

(a) Historical information should not be available on-line in a remote access system.

(b) What constitutes historical information in one file may be different than that used in another file.

(c) Historical information has been defined as that information which: is used less than X% of the time; is seldom used; has been superceded by more current or accurate information. All of the foregoing statements are probably true to some extent.

(2) A historical file may consist of any one or combination of the following types of historical records.

(a) Records which have been actually superceded by more current and up-to-date records.

(b) Records which have not been updated for some excessive length of time (e.g., four years). Assumes that each record in the file has the date the record was last updated.

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(c) Records which have not been recently reconfirmed as still being valid or current. Assumes that each record in the file has a date information in record was last observed or reported.

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(3) There are those files in which historical records are required to detect trends, abnormal situations, etc.

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(4) A current file is a file which contains the latest known, reported or observed information.

c. Centralization of Files

This concept envisions the establishment of a central data base remotely accessible to many organizations. The central file on any given subject would be located in the computer system of that organization designated as being responsible for maintaining the file. This concept assumes that:

(1) Similar or duplicate files will be merged to establish a single central file maintained by one organization.

(2) Central file will be:

(a) Expanded to meet the informational requirements of all participating agencies.

(b) Updated frequently, thereby insuring interrogators access to the latest information. Initial goal is to update at least once every twenty-four hours. Ultimate objective is to provide capability to update minute by minute.

(c) Accessible to all participating agencies twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

2. Type of Duplication in COINS I. Following is a list of the several types of duplication that have been identified in COINS I.

a. File Duplication

(1) There are currently four [redacted] files maintained in the COINS I Community. Each of these files is slightly different than the other files either in content, date level (i.e., currency) and data elements. These files are being maintained by DIA, NSA, NPIC and CIA.

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(2) Why are there so many files on the same subject? Can a single file be established in COINS I which will satisfy the informational requirements of all the participating Agencies? If a central file is established will all participating agencies support it, use it, and stop maintaining their similar or duplicate files?

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(3) The major reasons for establishing duplicate or similar files is that an organization cannot rely upon a file maintained by another organization, as they are either not available, current or detailed enough. Therefore, if a central file is established the file manager must assure other participating Agencies that the central file:

(a) Is current enough to satisfy the informational requirements of all participating agencies.

(b) Contains all of the data elements of information required by all participating agencies. This means that the information content of the central file must be expanded to satisfy these informational requirements.

(c) Available for interrogation by all participating agencies with answers being displayed in a format suitable to the users needs.

(4) Establishment of a central file and identifying the organization responsible for managing and maintaining the file will not be an easy task. The whole subject is clouded by excessive parochialism and inter-organizational jealousies. Establishing such a file will require the merging of existing files, elimination of duplicate entries and adoption of common data standards.

(5) It is not expected that all Agencies having a duplicate or similar file will immediately stop maintaining such a file. Instead there will be a transition period during which all organizations will maintain their own files in addition to the central file. However, gradually, these organizations will realize that the central file contains the necessary information and that this information is available, current and reliable. The duplicate or similar files will gradually disappear as participating Agencies develop confidence in the central file.

(6) There are still some problems which must be considered. What happens when the organization managing the central file unilaterally decides to change the content, format, data standards, updating procedures, etc.? Who will stop participating organizations from establishing or maintaining duplicate or similar files? What happens if the organization responsible for a central file doesn't keep it current? What are the enforcement procedures?

b. Source Duplication

(1) The same sources are generally being exploited to feed information into these duplicate or similar files. Organizations sponsoring these files are entering only the information of interest to them and they are entering it in accordance with their own data standards. Consequently even though the same sources may be used in establishing and maintaining a file, it is not always an easy task to merge and dedupe such files.

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(2) Following is the general procedure that should be employed to minimize entry or record duplication.

(a) Establish data standards and convert each file to these standards.

(b) Establish file format (i.e., content) and convert each file to this format.

(c) Merge files and dedupe records on key fields.

(d) Analysts in each participating Agency review central file deduped record file to (1) verify and update record in central file and (2) insure that no unique records were extracted in the deduping process.

3. Central File Concept

a. Concept: A central file will be established in COINS I in certain selected areas [redacted] and one of the participating organizations (i.e., DIA) will be charged with the responsibility of establishing and maintaining the file in accordance with agreed upon specifications.

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b. Delegation of Responsibilities for Central Files: The following central files will be established and maintained by Agencies indicated.

<u>FILE</u>	<u>MANAGING AGENCY</u>
-------------	------------------------

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

c. Central File Standards: Organizations responsible for establishing and maintaining a central file will abide by the following standards. The central file will be:

(1) Expanded to meet the informational requirements of all participating Agencies.

(2) Kept current and if any update information is available the central file will be updated once a day at a minimum. However, immediate updating of the central file through remote consoles is a desirable goal.

(3) Provided with source material used by other participating Agencies to currently maintain their duplicate or similar files.

(4) Utilize standard data elements and items agreed upon by the participating Agencies.

(5) Available to all participating Agencies twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week.

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(5) Altered in content and format only with the consent of the other participating Agencies. Requests for changes in content, format, sources, standards, etc., may be initiated by any participating Agencies.

d. Elimination of duplicate or Similar Files

(1) One year after a central file has been in operation in COINS, it will be considered as the authoritative source for the U. S Intelligence Community.

(2) All duplicate or similar files other than the central file will be eliminated within one year after the central file has been in operation in COINS.

e. Enforcement Procedures

What are the enforcement procedures to insure that a file is maintained properly?

4. Intelligence Reporting by Exception

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a. How often do different Agencies within the Intelligence Community disseminate a report containing essentially the same piece of information

)? Are the files of consumer and Intelligence agencies bulging with hard copy reports (including messages, machine listing, etc.) containing essentially the same information? How often do these reports conflict with one another?

b. "Intelligence Reporting by Exception" is a concept which if implemented would (1) reduce duplicate reporting, and (2) insure that only new or significant changes in known information is reported to intelligence consumers or exchanged within the Intelligence Community.

c. The Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) provides the learning mechanism for the initial exploitation of this concept. However, it is recognized that full exploitation of this concept must await implementation of COINS II or even COINS III when there are more files in the system.

d. For example, before an Intelligence Analyst in one of the participating Agencies issues an Intelligence Report he would interrogate the appropriate file(s) in COINS to determine what is already known about the topic. Several courses of action would be open to the Intelligence Analyst depending upon the answers to his interrogations of the files in COINS.

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(1) If the information is already available in the files and therefore available to the Intelligence Community, then there may be no value in issuing a report. However, the acquisitions of this information from another source might change the (a) validity or (b) last known or observed date of the information in the file.

(2) The Intelligence Analyst must issue a report:

(a) If there is a significant difference between the information in the file and that available to the Intelligence Analyst.

(b) If the answer to an interrogation indicates that information is not in the files. However, the fact that the information is not present in the file does not mean that the information is not known or available in the Intelligence Community. Instead, it merely means that the information is not available in the COINS I files.

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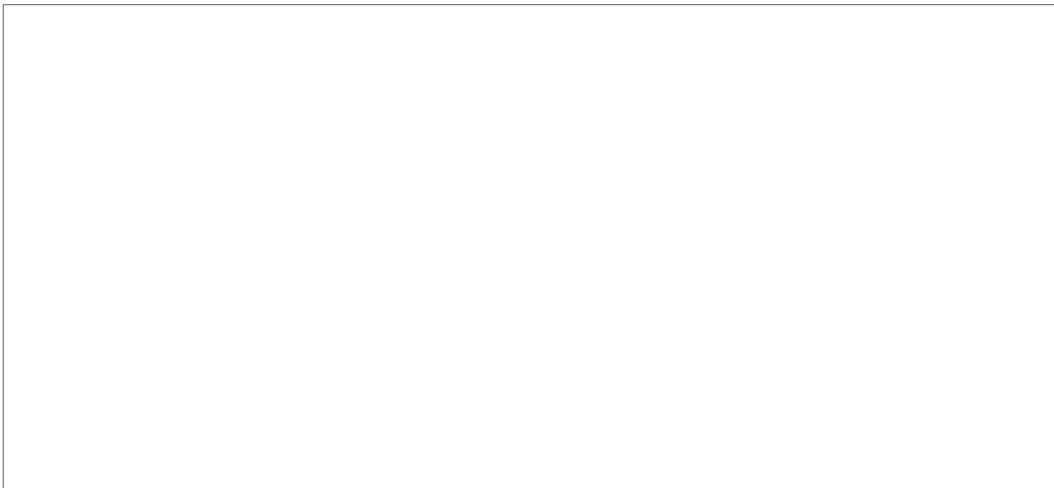
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

23 Aug 66

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 17 Aug 66

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 17 August 1966
2. The following individuals were present:

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3. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

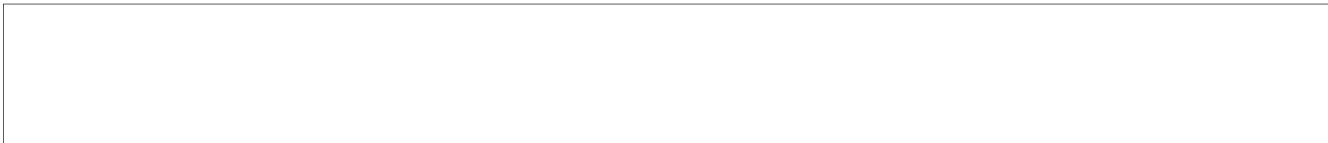
4. The Chairman announced that CODIB had not forwarded the COINS I Implementation Plan to USIB for approval. Each month after 1 July 1966 that the paper is delayed means one additional months delay in the implementation of COINS I. Therefore, the implementation date of COINS I was 10 January 1967 as the date of this meeting. Some testing may take place, however, prior to the implementation date.

5. The latest draft of a report by the Communications Working Group was passed out to members of the Committee for final coordination. Members were asked to telephone any non-concurrences before the next COINS meeting. A copy of the draft is attached as Inclosure No. 1. [redacted] DIA, indicated that a letter was on its way to DOD/I & L requesting data links.

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6. The evaluation of COINS I was discussed by the Committee. A "think paper" entitled "Evaluation of COINS I" (attached as Inclosure No. 2) was distributed to members for consideration in developing an evaluation procedure. On the subject of operational evaluation, discussion proceeded along the line that such an evaluation should answer questions like "How did COINS I contribute to (a) the production of better intelligence and (b) the dissemination of intelligence? Committee members were asked to give subject and the evaluation paper some thought and begin developing a specific evaluation procedure.

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- a. Who is currently using the information?
- b. What is the information currently used for?
- c. What improvement is expected to be gained by adding the file to COINS as opposed to:
 - (1) Swapping magnetic tapes via courier
 - (2) The current system whereby each Agency has its own file
- d. What are the sources of the information in the file?
(Indicate volume and frequency for each source)
- e. How current must the information in the file be to satisfy all the participating users' requirements?
- f. What additional information must be added to the file to satisfy the participating users?
 - g. How many users are there, and how do they access (reference) the files now, and how do they expect to access the files in COINS I?
 - h. What other files in COINS are used in conjunction with this file?
 - i. How is the information in the files used?

8. The CIA Representative, [redacted] nominated the following four files for COINS I:

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A description of the first two files are attached as Inclosures 3 and 4.
Descriptions of the last two files were not provided.

[redacted] 25X1

10. A draft of DIA/NSA paper on message formatting and communications procedures was distributed. Additional work is required before this paper is finished for publication. Committee members were encouraged to read this paper and forward questions to [redacted] DIA. A problem exists with respect to key sets getting out of sync.

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11. [redacted] NPIC, was notified that the TIPS software requested by NPIC would be shipped early next week.

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12. The Chairman requested members to investigate the possibility of:

[redacted]

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13. Minimum standards of updating COINS I files once per day were discussed.

[redacted]

15. The next meeting of the COINS Committee will be held 24 Aug 66. Each member was asked to nominate an intelligence problem area to be analyzed as to how COINS can aid the area. The two problem areas discussed were:

[redacted]

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Chairman, COINS Committee

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

Subject: Project COINS

1. In order to determine the feasibility of implementing Phase I of this project by 1 December 1966, it was mutually agreed between the participating agencies that a site survey of existing area facilities of the participants was a prerequisite.

2. This survey was conducted in accordance with the following schedule:

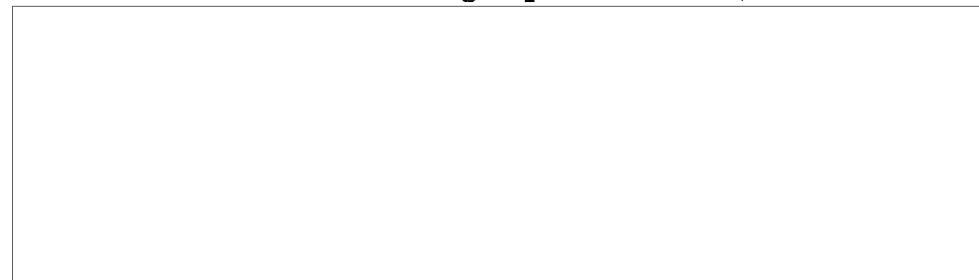
1 June 1966 1000 - DIA
1300 - STATE

2 June 1966 1000 - NPIC
1300 - CIA

3 June 1966 NSA

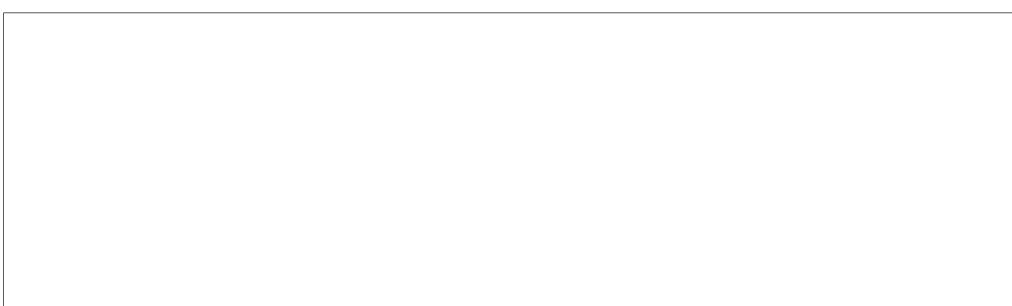
3. The team of Computer/Communications engineers and planners from NSA/DIA consisted of the following representatives:

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4. The specific individuals contacted at the various sites were as follows:

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5. The visit~~s~~ each site was aimed at ascertaining the availability of the requisite equipment and space, plus what related action had to be undertaken by each participant to resolve any problems associated with obtaining full operational capability by 1 December 1966.

6. Space availability at NSA, DIA, CIA and STATE is assured, while the NPIC allocation of the required space is still unresolved. The primary reason for this space difficulty at NPIC is that their present communications facility is saturated to the point where the incorporation of additional facilities has been determined, by the NPIC representatives, to be impractical. The only assurance that the NPIC representatives would provide was that additional space had been promised somewhere within the facility and it would be allocated at such time as the associated in-house decisions regarding approval of the project and its budgetary considerations are made.

7. In the discussions regarding the availability of equipment for all sites, it was generally concluded that there would be sufficient equipment of the various types required to implement the project, from a communications viewpoint, at all locations. It was mutually agreed by all participants that the ultimate modus operandi for the high speed links would be 4800 baud and that the common modem would be the SEBIT 48. In the interim, prior to the procurement of the ultimate equipment, that the accepted standard for operation of the high speed links would be any available SEBIT MODEM (24, 36 or 48) utilized in the 2400 baud mode.

8. Another significant area reviewed during this survey was the capability of each site to undertake the supporting site conditioning requirements related to the establishment of a COINS terminal at their facility.

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Outside of the NPIC situation, already covered in paragraph 6 above, the only major problem area appears to be the establishment of a new communications center at DIA to satisfy all of DIA's on-line computer communications requirements. There are several coordinated actions involving this requirement which must be accomplished before fulfillment of PHASE I can be achieved. Among these critical factors are the construction and installation schedules involved in conditioning the space DIA has allocated to the communications area required to support their on-line computer requirements inclusive of COINS.

9. A tentative estimate of the proposed schedule for establishing the supporting on-line communications facility at DIA is as follows:

- a. Engineering specifications from NSA by 15 July 1966
- b. Start of construction on or about 15 September 1966
- c. Completion of construction on or about 1 November 1966
- d. Start of installation on or about 1 November 1966
- e. Completion of installation on or about 15 November 1966
- f. Start of operational testing approximately 15 November 1966
- g. Obtain full operational capability by 1 December 1966.

10. In specific discussions regarding the quality of the line to be ordered in satisfaction of the high speed requirement it was mutually agreed that the line should be of a Schedule 4C type because of the increased availability versus the better response and increased reliability achieved. It was generally pointed out that the lead time for procurement of a Schedule 4C type of line is usually as much as six months in CONUS and that circuit acquisition should be launched as soon as practical. It is anticipated,

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however, that due to the relatively short distances involved, the realization of a Schedule 4C capability may not be as difficult to obtain, but final comment will have to await supporting research. It was mutually determined that the acquisition of an interim Schedule 4B capability would be satisfactory pending the achievement of the ultimate Schedule 4C type of channel capability desired.

11. The DIA representatives agreed to initiate the requisite procurement and funding actions associated with the circuits to NSA, STATE, and CIA. Final decision regarding the responsibility for funding on the CIA/DIA channel was not made but merely deferred until a later date.

12. It was mutually agreed that each participating agency would initiate whatever correspondence was necessary to receive authorization for establishing the lines interconnecting the remote ADP area with the communications terminal equipment in accordance with existing communications security regulations pertinent to their respective agencies.

13. In the discussions which took place as part of this survey, it was ascertained that CIA is investigating the possibility of their assumption of the switching function via an adaption of the KY-3 switch at their facility in Langeley. Current plans call for DIA to act as the focal switch in COINS I, utilizing the IBM 7740 to act as the communications interface. The CIA communications representatives, however, indicated that they needed time to determine the feasibility of employing a KY-3 switch to accommodate COINS switching requirement. The CIA ADP representatives appeared to prefer a store and forward capability at DIA in lieu of the line switching capability that the KY-3 switch would provide.

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14. CIA hopes to make the 1 December deadline at Langley. It was evident, however, that the supporting hardware and software necessary to implement the COINS operational capability at CIA would probably not be available until sometime after 1 January 1967. Specific queries by the NSA representatives to ascertain how soon after 1 January 1967 received replies reflecting that an operational capability at CIA might not materialize until sometime after the First Quarter calendar year 67.

15. It was generally agreed that the materialization of the circuit switching capability being investigated by CIA might provide the breathing room to plan expansion of the COINS System.

16. The CIA representatives requested to visit NSA sometime in the immediate future to view the TIPS progress to date and how NSA had resolved the problems of subordinating remote out-stations to a centralized computer configuration, and the supporting communications involved. It was agreed among the NSA representatives that the NSA CO3 representative would act as the focal point for coordinating the visit of the CIA representatives.

17. Particular concern was expressed by some of the CIA representatives regarding the procedures and formats necessary to facilitate the switching of data between the various agencies. The NSA representatives advised that a separate committee had been convened specifically for this purpose and that they would be coordinating their efforts with their communications counterparts at their respective agencies.

18. A diagram of the communication equipment required showing its availability and source is attached. All transfers of equipment will be effective by 1 October 1966.

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EVALUATION OF COINS I

1. In discussing the evaluation of COINS I, we have talked about operational vs. technical evaluation. In view of the nature of COINS I (i.e., it is a pilot system, it is being implemented using existing systems, and file selection [redacted])

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[redacted]
it is suggested that evaluation of COINS I be limited to a technical evaluation, and that, at least for the present, operational evaluation be ignored. (The COINS Implementation Plan states that a technical evaluation will be submitted six to nine months after the system has been in operation. It merely says that operational evaluation will be the subject of additional planning.)

2. If COINS I is to be evaluated in any logical fashion, it must be compared with, or contrasted to, something, either an existing system or a set of specifications or standards. Otherwise, evaluation can be meaningless, just someone's opinion, easily influenced by his or her personal prejudices or political leanings. Since COINS I is a leader in the field, there is no similar system readily available for comparison.

3. It appears, then that the first step in setting up the evaluation of COINS I is to establish the specific criteria on which to base the evaluation. We have already done this to some extent in the Implementation Plan, though more needs to be done. Attached is a list entitled "OBJECTIVES OF COINS I", which is an attempt to pull significant statements from the Plan to form a basis for specification. We should not be limited by these statements, but these are the things we have already said and should be something to work from.

4. Experience and learning are two of the most important objectives of COINS I. Evaluation of these objectives is probably more important than determining whether or not the system has met the technical specifications. This should definitely be considered in setting up the evaluation.

5. Once the specifications have been established, a rating system can be drawn up. Perhaps provision should be made whereby the rater must specify the basis for each rating, e.g., operational logs, specific operational tests.

6. The Committee should, in addition, decide who will make the evaluation. Should it be the COINS Committee, selected representatives from member agencies, a panel of the Knox Committee, a panel of CODIB, or members from all of the aforementioned groups.

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OBJECTIVES OF COINS I

1. With respect to files:

b. Make available to the Intelligence Community a diversified set of files to be certain that there will be included information of interest to all member agencies.

c. Build the necessary safeguards into the system to prevent unauthorized access to files by other agencies.

d. Build the necessary safeguards to prevent agencies from updating the information in the files of other agencies.

e. Standardize data elements where practical, or construct translation tables.

f. Insure that member agencies are kept informed of any significant changes in file format, accuracy and content.

g. Reduce the necessity of maintaining duplicate banks of information.

2. With respect to interrogations:

a. Improve the interchange of information between intelligence agencies by permitting remote consoles in any participating agency to interrogate the selected files of other agencies via computer-to-computer link.

b. Provide a fifteen-minute response to all interrogations. (Should this not be an average response time?)

c. Enable analyst to extract information from files in the systems of other agencies by using specific (canned) programs and users languages whereby they can specify (1) the file(s) to be searched, (2) the field(s) to be searched in the specific file(s) and (3) the elements of information to be searched for in the field(s) specified, selection being based on an "IF, OR, and AND" relationship.

d. Determine the amount of inter-agency activity desired in COINS.

e. Integrate the priority systems of member agencies into a COINS system of prioritics.

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3. With respect to communications:
 - a. Provide a communications switch at DIA.
 - b. Operate at a transmission rate of 2400 bits per second.
 - c. Protect transmissions to TOP SECRET SI.
 - d. Protect all computer complexes and remote stations to TOP SECRET SI.
 - e. Link computers together and make them available twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week.
 - f. Exchange messages in the system in the formats of the agencies.
 - g. Provide for transmitting, receipting and for validating of request messages, transmitting service messages and responses.
 - h. Solve problems associated with the linking together of unlike computer systems.

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4. The following discussion took place in connection with CODIB:

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b. Coordination of the "COINS Implementation Plan" has not been completed by CODIB. [redacted] DIA indicated that their concurrence had been forwarded to CODIB.

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c. Two CODIB papers of interest to the COINS Committee are:

(1) CODIB-D-115/1, dtd 27 Jun 66, Subj: "Subcommittee on Standardization". This Committee was formed largely as a result of the recommendation contained in the COINS Implementation Plan.

(2) CODIB-M-75, dtd 28 Jun 66, Subj: "Minutes of the Seventy-fifth Meeting, 17 Jun 66"

5. Mr. Slaughter/STATE indicated that it might be possible to provide NSA with a copy of the STATE cables normally received by NSA in a machineable form. In any event someone from STATE will be contacting [redacted] in the near future to work out details.

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8. Discussion with respect to how to evaluate COINS I continued.

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10. NPIC - Two NPIC programmers are still working in the RYE/TIPS area. NSA is releasing copies and documentation of the RYE and TIPS software.

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[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

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5.2 MESSAGE PROCESSING

There are seven (7) types of messages which may be processed through the Automated Inquiry System. These message types break down into three (3) modes of processing:

- 1). Lookout mode - Passport and Visa messages
- 2). Administrative mode - Administrative messages
- 3). Update mode - Passport and Visa file additions and deletions

It is the function of the Executive to monitor, through its line control and program control, the input processing, queueing, message retrieval (priority selection), message type processing, and the formatting, queueing and initiation of output. It is, therefore, the function of this higher control to select a message from the input queue and to call upon the proper message processing programs. It is then for that mode of processing to break the message down and process it item by item, while building an output data table, and return to the Executive for output processing when all of the items in the message have been analyzed and a full message response formulated.

5.2.1 Lookout Mode: Message Processing

The lookout mode of processing consists of a series of programs which analyze the items from Type 1 and 2 messages (Passport and Visa Lookout) and search the lookout files for all of the names and variations in each item, recording the search results in a structured Message Output Table.

The unit of processing in the lookout mode is the item. All of the relevant programs in lookout processing are entered for each item in the message being processed. All output recording is item by item in the message output table. Encountering an END field indicates the end of item processing and, therefore, the end of message processing. Lookout processing may be considered the same for both passport and visa messages; whatever differences do exist are explicitly noted in the processing description and are:

Jasch #1

- o the indexes and data records searched
- o the format of the data records
- o the relevance of certain number of programs entered.

The processing of lookout messages is governed by three factors:

- o the objectives of the design;
- o the nature of the information in an item;
- o the nature of the information in the files (see section on "File Design").

The objectives of the design are, in this order:

- o exhaustiveness in searching;
- o maximum speed of processing (distinguishing simple from complex cases);
- o minimum core storage space occupied by processing programs;
- o modular design to allow for experimentation (see last section on "Experimentation Checkpoints")

In general, it might be said that the objective is a processing system fast enough for the simple case, comprehensive enough for the complicated case, yet exhaustive in its analysis of any case. When speed conflicts with exhaustiveness, the issue has been resolved for exhaustiveness. When space conflicts with speed, speed has governed the design.

Before discussing the processing system as an answer proposed to the lookout problem, it is necessary to examine closely all facets of the question itself. File structures have been discussed previously in this report. What follows is a definition and summary of the nature and interrelationship of the information contained in an item.

5.2.1.1 Definition of Item in Processing Viewpoint

Each lookout item is uniquely numbered and may consist of nine (9) different kinds of fields, each field marked by a three-character identifier:

- 1). NAM field contains the item number, the first and middle names of the main applicant and his surname, which may be a multiple name with many prefixes and stems. Each separate "word" in a surname is defined as an

"element." A "word," in this regard, is a series of adjacent characters delimited by blanks or double virgule (//). All hyphens (-), periods (.), and apostrophes (') are converted into blanks by the conversion program.

- 2). AKA field contains alternative first and middle names and surname by which the applicant may be known. Any one of these names may be exactly the same as its corresponding name on the NAM, the assumption being that at least one is different. This field is included on a passport lookout only. It is equivalent to the CHK field. Titles included in the name fields of AKA are treated as names according to their position in the field.
- 3). DOB field contains the month, day, and year of birth of the named person in the NAM field. More than one DOB field may be included in an item and will be considered in the processing.
- 4). KIN field contains at least the first name of a person included on the applicant's passport; middle names and a unique surname may or may not be included in this field. For processing purposes, the important characteristics of the KIN person are
 - o the year of birth is indeterminate;
 - o the given names of the KIN person share the surname of the applicant and all his alias surnames as well as their own unique surname (maiden name), if provided;
 - o the NAM applicant is a separate person from the KIN and does not share a surname provided for the KIN;
 - o no place of birth or alias may be provided for a KIN (except through use of the VFY field).
- 5). INC field contains at least the first name of a person(s) included on the applicant's passport and may or may not contain middle names and unique surnames. The important characteristics of this field are:
 - o many separate persons with unique names may be included in the item through the INC field;

- o the connected first name and middle names of each inclusion are considered unique, even though they may be same as each other or as the applicants, his kin, or aliases;
- o each unique inclusion shares the surname of the applicant and all of his alias surnames as well as his own surname, if provided (for step-children);
- o the applicant, his kin or other inclusions do not share the surname of the inclusion (stepchild);
- o no date, place of birth, or alias may be provided for an inclusion;
- o each inclusion is assumed to be 21 years old or younger (Present Year - 21 = year of birth range).

6). CHK field contains alternative first, middle, and/or surnames by which the NAM applicant may be known. Many CHK fields may be included in an item. The connection of first, middle, and surnames in a CHK field is irrelevant to the processing. Any combination of names by which an applicant may be known constitutes a valid searching possibility for that applicant (illustrated later). It is possible that an alias name may be specified which is the same as an equivalent name already provided for the applicant (i.e. NAM JOHN LEWIS..., CHK JOHN MICHAEL). Other important characteristics of this field are:

- o the "name" of the applicant means all permutations of first, middle, and surnames defined in the NAM, AKA, and CHK fields, all possibilities having equal validity;
- o all name permutations share the same dates and places of births for the applicant;
- o all inclusions and kin share all alias surnames of the applicant.

7). POB field contains the name of the country of birth of the applicant only. More than one POB field may be included in the item and will be considered in the processing.

- 8). VFY field contains free text information concerning the applicant or his inclusion and affects the output response generated for the item.
- 9). TXT field contains general administrative information about the item in free text form; it does not affect the lookout in any way.

Beginning with examples may be a helpful introduction to the item definitions and processing description which follows:

1). NORMAL ITEM (normal name)

NAM 1 JOHN LEWIS/VIALET//
DOB FEB. 11, 1938//

2). WIFE INCLUDED (no maiden name, same initials)

NAM 1 JOHN LEWIS/VIALET//
DOB FEB. 11, 1938//
KIN JOYCE LILA//

3). WIFE AND CHILD INCLUDED (with maiden name)

NAM 1 JOHN LEWIS/VIALET//
DOB FEB. 11, 1938//
KIN JOYCE LILA/COLE//
INC JILL CATES//

4). WIFE, CHILD, STEPCHILD, ALIAS (multiple date of birth, surname alias)

NAM 1 JOHN LEWIS/VIALET//
DOB FEB. 11, 1938//
KIN JOYCE LILA/COLE//
INC JILL CATES//
INC MARY JULIA/CHAMPS//
CHK JACK/VIOLET//
CHK JOHN CHARLES//
DOB FEB. 11, 1944//

5). NORMAL ITEM (complex name)

NAM 1 PAUL ROBERT HUGH/DE PONCELIN DE ROUCOURS//
DOB JULY 16, 1942//

6). NORMAL ITEM (more complex name)

NAM 1 D'ANGEL/DE LOS ROCCA Y RABAN//
DOB JAN. 8, 1920//

7). COMPLETELY COMPLEX CASE (illustrative purposes later)

NAM 1 PAUL ROBERT HUGH/DE PONCELIN DE ROUCOURS//
DOB JULY 16, 1942//
KIN PASCELINE/ROUCOURS//
INC PAUL, JR., HENRI CHARLES, ROBERT PAUL//
INC RICHARD/PONCELAUX//
CHK HUGH/PONCELIN//
CHK PAUL JOSEPH//
CHK ROBERT/PONCELIK//
CHK PAUL ROBERT HUGH/FRENCHY//
CHK FRENCHY/D'KNIFE//
POB FRANCE//
POB SWITZERLAND//

5.2.1.2 Item Information Characteristics

Certain interrelationships and certain problem areas are exposed once the full range of information possibilities for an item is considered and summarized. These information characteristics lay the basis for the processing system. This section notes the characteristics; the processing description describes the effect of the item information on the system's design:

- 1). there is a normal, simple case which constitutes approximately 75% of the cases (example 1)
- 2). there are possibilities for very complex cases (example 7)

- 3). the applicant may have many first, middle, and surname possibilities, all derived from the same item; the first six (6) characters of certain of these surnames may be the same while the full surname differs (example 7, PONCELIN and PONCELEX); the first or middle initials of different full names may be the same for the same person (example 4, JOHN and JACK);
- 4). the applicant may have multiple dates and places of birth (examples 4, 7);
- 5). more than one person may be described in an item (examples 2, 3, 4, 7);
- 6). each additional person included in an item may have a unique surname, belonging to that person only (examples 3, 4, 7);
- 7). each item inclusion shares all the surnames of the applicant (prescribed rule of searching);
- 8). the total information available about all inclusions (KIN and INC) is a first and possibly a middle and surname, plus the applicant's surname; no dates or places of birth or aliases;
- 9). a KIN (generally, wife) may be older or younger than either the applicant or applicant's child; an INC (generally, child) is considered to be 21 or less;
- 10). the connection of first-middle-surname is significant for an inclusion, while it is not for the applicant and his aliases (in example 3, the applicant would not be known as JOHN LEWIS COLE, nor would the child be JILL LILA VIALET, though in 7, the applicant may be HUGH ROBERT PONCELEX);
- 11). the applicant and some (or all) of his inclusions may have the same surname and the same first and/or middle initials (examples 2, 3, 4, 7)

- 12). the full surname of the applicant and the full surname of an inclusion may be different; but the first six (6) characters may be the same; and, possibly, the first and/or middle initials may be the same (example 7 - Robert Poncelix and Richard Poncelaux);
- 13). the applicant, kin, and inclusions may have the same surname (at least first 6 characters) and all be 21 years old or less (example 4, using higher date of birth) and, in fact, they may have the same first and/or middle initials;
- 14). a middle name may be missing in all cases; a surname may be missing for inclusions; a first name could be missing for the applicant without rendering the whole item meaningless, which would not necessarily be true for an inclusion;
- 15). dates and places of birth may be missing for the applicant;
- 16). a whole set of possibilities exist in analyzing surnames which consist of many elements (examples 5, 6);
- 17). by common usage, incoherent writing, simplicity, or a number of reasons, a complex surname may be shortened, merged, rearranged, or prefixes may be added or dropped (DE PONCELIN DE ROUCOURS may become PONCELIN, ROUCOURS, DEPONCELIN, DEROUCOURS, DEPONCELIN-ROUCOURS, or the like);
- 18). if the applicant's surname is complex, it follows that the applicant may be known by
 - o any one of his possible first names, in combination with
 - o any one of his possible middle names, in combination with
 - o any one of the permutations of his surname;

- 19). since inclusions (KIN or INC) share the applicant's surname, they also must be considered with all permutations of that surname;
- 20). inclusion surnames may themselves be complex and thus expand into a set of permutations;
- 21). permutations of complex names are, in effect, alternative surnames or "aliases"
- 22). the first six (6) characters of either one permutation and another (DEPONCELIN and DEPONCELINROUCOURS) or one permutation and another surname alias (PONCELIN and PONCELIIX) may be the same;
- 23). following is a list of valid name possibilities, derived from example 7 above, a very complicated case:

First Names →	Middle Names →	Surnames
PAUL HUGH ROBERT FRENCHY	ROBERT HUGH JOSEPH	DEPONCELINDEROUCOURS DEPONCELIN DEPONCELINROUCOURS PONCELIN PONCELINDEROUCOURS PONCELINROUCOURS DEROUCOURS ROUCOURS PONCELIK FRENCHY D'KNIFE
PASCELINE	-	any of above
PAUL	-	any of above
HENRI	CHARLES	any of above
ROBERT	PAUL S	any of above
RICHARD	-	PONCELAUX and any of above

5.2.1.3 Item Processing: Introduction and Terminology

The processing of an item is subdivided into five (5) phases. Cycling through these phases in sequential order, for each item, involves

- o the progressive development of an item's data from variable length text fields to a refined and interconnected set of tables designed to optimize the exhaustiveness and the speed of searching (Phases 1 and 2);
- o searching the data index for entries which match the information in the item (Phases 3 and 4);
- o searching the data records themselves for each index entry candidate (Phase 5);
- o recording the results of the search for this item (Phase 3 and 5);
- o moving to the next item (Phase 1).

Certain terms must be defined before the processing phases are described:

- 1). A "variation" refers to one surname possibility in a set of related ("threaded") surname possibilities (see "thread"). Heretofore, "variation" has been used in its common usage to refer to all alternative surnames by which an applicant or inclusion may be known, such as "all the variations of the surname." This definition is also used in the processing description for the convenience of common usage; efforts are made to clearly define which meaning is intended.
- 2). A "thread" is a set of surname possibilities which are related to one another by having the same first six (6) characters (such as PONCELIN-PONCELIK-PONCELAN). Each individual surname in the thread is a "variation" (PONCELIN). In the great majority of cases in this system, a thread will consist of a single variation. In fact, in most cases, the entire set of surname possibilities will be one thread consisting of one variation (VIALET, in example 1).

- 3). A "link" refers to an indicator in one processing table which points to a position in another processing table. Distinct tables may be "linked" together. A "link pointer" is distinguished from a "thread pointer," which points to a position within the same table.
- 4). An "index entry" refers to a single logical record from the data index file, containing data relevant to a single individual and linked, through a data cell address, to a single logical record in the data file.
- 5). An "index sequence" refers to a set of index entries, all of which have keys containing the same six (6) characters of a surname and a year of birth falling within a specified range.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

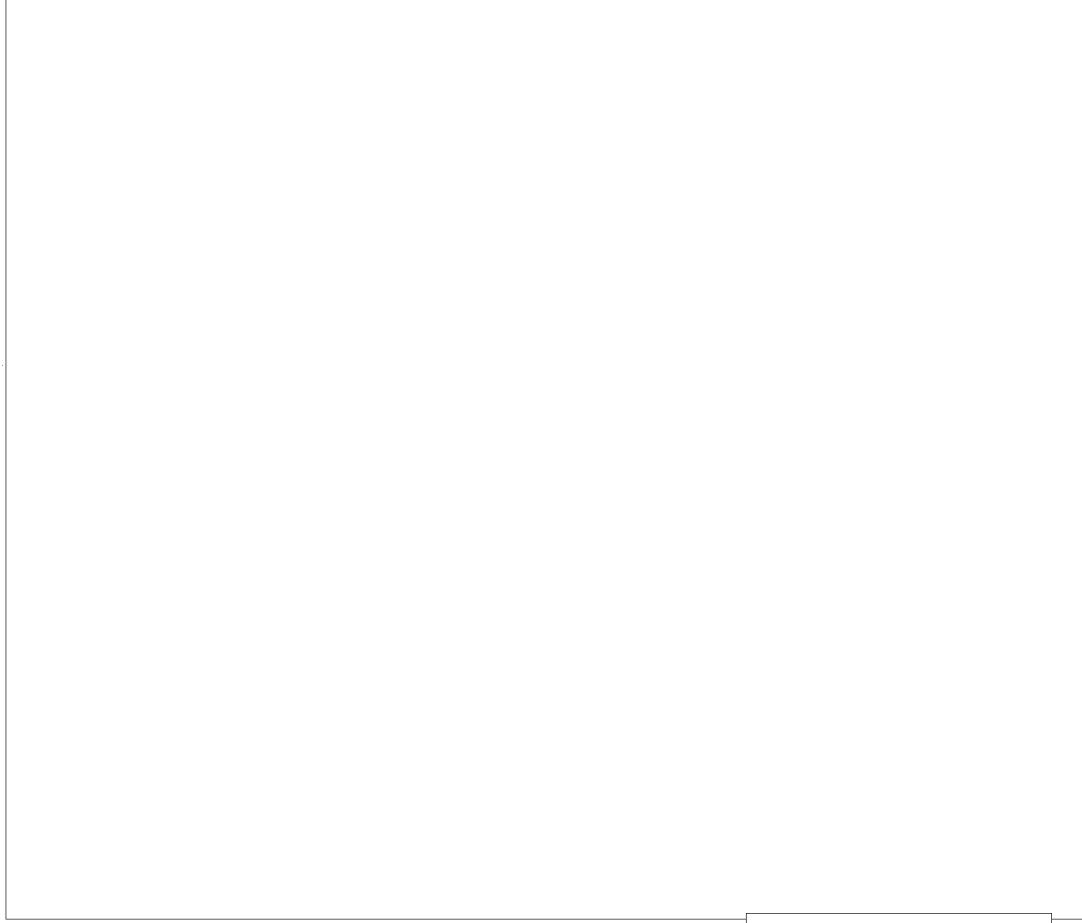
6 July 1966

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 28 and 29 June 1966

1. A joint meeting was held on 28 June 1966 with the Systems Panel of Guidance and Evaluation from 1015 to 1500.

2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



28/29
JUN
66

25X1

3. The morning session involved briefings by [redacted] on the RYE system and by [redacted] on the TIPS system.

25X1

4. A detailed technical discussion on current planning and status of COINS I took place in the afternoon session.

5. A regular COINS meeting was held on 29 June 1966 from 1015 to 1145.

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6. The following individuals were present:

25X1

8. The Chairman asked Mr. Slaughter if it would be possible for NSA to receive a mag tape of all messages that normally come to NSA from State. Mr. Slaughter said he would look into the matter and report back at the next meeting.

25X1

9. The Chairman brought up the subject of evaluation of COINS I. [redacted] submitted an informal paper on operational and technical evaluation. This paper is included as Inclosure 1.

10. Discussion followed on evaluation of COINS and the following is an outline of committee's thinking at the time:

Technical Evaluation

Communications

Links

Crypto

Equipment

Hardware

Software

Exchange (users language)

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Remote Terminals

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Users Language

Interface

Messages

Use of System

Queue

Faults

Lost Messages

Software

Simulation

Expandability of system

of interrogation per each agency - response time

Problem of Comparison

[redacted] is making an evaluation of Project MAC)

Operational Evaluation

User Satisfaction

a) Interrogations - Language and format

Files

Classification

Content of answers

An in-depth survey of users

How long would it have taken to get the answer by other means?

Have you asked the question before?

Did you derive any useful intelligence conclusions?

What intelligence reports did conclusions go into?

[redacted]

Chairman, COINS Committee

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Technical evaluation of a system consists of applying a series of tests to the system to see whether it meets the technical specifications established for its design and whether in fact it performs acceptably. With regard to COINS I, this would involve seeing whether programs and circuits perform correctly and inquiries, etc. are properly processed in the system. Operation testing involving evaluating whether the system meets operational requirements. In general, a system has to be technically acceptable before operational testing is feasible. Once technical testing has been completed operational testing can be initiated to evaluate the utility of the system. In the case of COINS I, this involves specifying the kinds of pay-offs such a community-wide system might have and then evaluating what pay-off (or improvement) has been achieved. A distinction is made between these two types of testing because the initial data bases in COINS I are agency selections and have not been selected to test any specific anticipated pay-off from on-line systems. Thus they are quite suitable for technical test of the system, but may or may not be useful in operational testing. Operational testing of COINS I would have to be preceded by an examination of what might be a set of improvements achievable with such a system and a selection of files to demonstrate the reality of such improvements.

Inclosure 1

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

21 Jun 66

SUBJECT: Minutes for the COINS Meeting of 15 June 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA on 15 June 1966, from 1010 to 1145.
2. The following individuals were present or absent as indicated:

25X1



15
JUN
66

25X1

3. [redacted] indicated that there was some urgency regarding final approval of the COINS implementation plan in view of the lead time required by NPIC for the rehabilitation of their communications center (needed as a result of COINS I).

25X1

4. [redacted] is meeting with CODIB on 17 Jun regarding CODIB's approval and transmittal of the plan to USIB.

25X1

5. [redacted] had suggested that COINS working groups be somewhat formalized and that they work independently and report their findings back to the COINS Committee. [redacted] said he thought this was a good idea and immediately established [redacted] Working Group with [redacted] of DIA as Chairman. The initial meeting for the Working Group was set at 1000 hours 20 Jun 66, at DIA B Bldg, Room 1313. He postponed setting up [redacted] Working Group until:

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25X1
25X1

25X1

GROUP 1
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6. A draft of a Memorandum for the Record prepared by the Communications Working Group was passed out to members of the Committee. This team had just completed site surveys at DIA, STATE, NPIC, CIA and NSA. If there are no objections to the draft, a formal paper will be published. [redacted] said there appeared to be no serious communications problems in COINS I.

25X1 7. [redacted] announced that the DIA/NSA group working on message formats and procedures had just about completed their work. He hoped to have a report by the next meeting.

8. Evaluation and Simulation Effort.

a. Use of Data

Accurate and complete information about the daily activity of COINS I will be needed:

(1) By the people responsible for day-to-day operation of COINS I.

(2) As the primary source of reliable data to be used as input to the models to be written to simulate COINS I

(3) For the COINS Committee evaluation of COINS I, which is to be made nine months after operation begins (Pg. 40-Second Draft Working Paper - COINS).

b. Two major question about the operation of COINS I should be answered by using data from system logs. The same questions should be explored using simulation techniques. First, for each kind of information retrieval request submitted to COINS, what is the turn-around time? (Turn-around time is the interval between the time the requesting computer submits the request to the COINS I network until the time a complete answer is returned to the requesting computer.) Second, how large is the message handling load on COINS I and what is its nature? That is, how many messages are sent by each computer to each computer? What files are accessed? How often? How many unsuccessful requests are there (e.g., badly formatted request, non-operative computer)?

c. The Log

(1) Logs should be automatically maintained by the Communications Switch and by each of the participating computer systems. The logs should be made available to the COINS Committee on magnetic computer tape.

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(2) The log of the Communications Switch should contain the following information for each message:

- (a) Date and time (nearest second)
- (b) Priority
- (c) Number of characters
- (d) Kind of message; i.e., request, receipt, response, service
- (e) Receipt number or serial number
- (f) Identification of sending computer
- (g) Identification of receiving computer
- (h) Name of computer program requested

(3) The log of each computer system should contain all of the above information plus, for each message, the number of tries made to send a message before a receipt (or its equivalent) is received.

d. By the next meeting each participating Agency will nominate an individual to work on the Evaluation and Simulation Panel. [redacted] DIA will define the difference between operational evaluation and technical evaluation.

25X1

9. The minutes of the last meeting were passed out, discussed and approved.

25X1

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25X1 11. Mr. Lawrence Slaughter is replacing Mr. John Pruden as the State Department's representative on the COINS Committee. Mr. Pruden is departing for Bangkok in the near future. The Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the fine support and assistance Mr. Pruden has provided.

25X1 14. [redacted] indicated that he thought that COINS should make provisions for "standing interrogations", i.e., an inquiry that would be answered whenever new, pertinent information entered the system.

25X1 16. Mr. Slaughter will brief the Committee at the next meeting on the techniques the State Department uses in grouping names.

25X1 17. [redacted] expects to have a listing of the data base to be used in the NSA files for COINS I at the next Committee meeting.

25X1 19. The next meeting will be held on 29 June 1966.

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

25X1

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Approved For Release 2007/10/23 : CIA-RDP80B01139A000100150001-6

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes for the COINS Meeting of 1 June 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA on 1 June 1966, from 1000 to 1130.
2. The following Individuals were present or absent as indicated:

25X1

1
JUN
66

3. Minutes for the 18 May 1966 meeting were reviewed and approved.

4. Error noted in the page numbering of COINS Implementation Plan, pages 51, 52, 53, 54, should be corrected to read 41, 42, 43, 44. Most copies will have been corrected before they were shipped. However, copies which have not changed should be corrected accordingly.

25X1

5. [redacted] recommended that those concerned read:

25X1

a. Chapter II - "Files" in the COINS Implementation Plan dated 25 May 1966.

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16. The following is a list of the data elements (items) that must be contained in each record or file:

a. Source

- (1) Name of source document, message, etc.
- (2) Date level of source material
- (3) Validity of source
- (4) Classification of source

b. Classification or record or file

- (1) Classification
- (2) Handlings
- (3) Disseminations

17. A draft copy of the memorandum for the Record [redacted] in COINS I was distributed for review. This was the result of an ad hoc meeting between NSA/DIA on 25 January 1966. Follow-on meetings were not held. This subject will be the topic of discussions in the near future.

25X1

18. A DIA/NSA meeting was scheduled for 1300 of 1 June 1966, with respect to message formatting and exchange procedures. These meetings will be expanded to include NPIC and CIA.

19. The next COINS meeting is scheduled for 1000 hours 15 June 1966. The subject of this meeting will be a continuation of discussions with respect [redacted] scheduled for COINS I.

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25X1

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

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31 May 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 18 May 1966

1. The COINS Meeting was held at NSA 18 May 1966 from 1000 to 1130.
2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



18
MAY
66

3. The meetings on 23 March, 6 April, 13 April and 4 May 1966 were for the express purpose of working on the Second Draft of the COINS Implementation Plan.

a. On 6 April 1966, the CIA representatives indicated that they would be joining COINS I with an IBM 360/50.

b. On 13 April 1966, the DIA representatives asked for a three week delay in order that they could re-examine the switch (i.e., IBM 7740) to determine if it could handle an additional computer.

c. On 4 May the DIA representatives indicated that the switch could handle the CIA computer and the "Implementation Plan" was adjusted accordingly.

d. On 18 May 1966 the Implementation Plan was approved by the COINS Committee for final publication.

4. Communications

a. An ad hoc meeting between NSA and DIA was held on 9 May 1963, at NSA to (a) identify the communication engineering assistance required by DIA and (b) determine what assistance could be provided by NSA. As indicated in Inclosure 1 NSA/T1 has agreed to provide assistance to DIA. As an initial step a team of communications and computer engineers from NSA/DIA will perform a communications site survey on the dates indicated below:

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INTERVALS: NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED.

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1 June - 1000 - DIA - IBM 7740 (Switch)
IBM 1410 (Computer)

1300 - STATE - (ASR-28 Remote Terminal)

2 June - 1000 - NPIC - (UNIVAC 490)
1300 - CIA - (IBM 360)

3 June - 1000 - NSA - (UNIVAC 490)

b. Each site has been requested to provide, on the dates indicated above, the computer and communications personnel who are:

- (1) Familiar with this project
- (2) Responsible for the interface of hardware and communications.

c. The team will be particularly interested in:

- (1) The availability and non-availability of equipment (e.g., KG-13, MODEMS, HN-9, etc.)
- (2) Proposed configuration of hardware
- (3) Estimated date for completing each installation

5. As a result of an exchange of correspondence between NSA and NPIC, four NPIC UNIVAC 490 programmers are now working in NSA/Cl42 learning RYE/TIPS.

6. Agencies participating in COINS I develop the specification for a common, computer independent users language for use throughout the intelligence community in COINS II for remote interrogation and file maintenance. These specifications to be based on operational experience gained in COINS I. This was made as specific recommendation in the "Implementation Plan."

7. It was agreed that the acronym COINS and its expansion "Community On-Line INtelligence System is not classified. In fact, the general COINS concept is not classified. However, the specific , organizations and hardware involved is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

8. Next meeting is scheduled for 1 June 1966, at NSA. The subject for this meeting will be [redacted] scheduled for COINS I. Each member was requested to bring:

- a. Description of the file(s).
- b. Format of the file(s).
- c. Data elements and items contained in the file(s).

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25X1

25X1

10. [redacted] DIA, proposed a series of meetings to be held relative to "time-sharing" in the intelligence community. The Chairman will investigate this proposal.

11. The following paragraph is included for the general interest of all concerned:

The current TIPS "PILOT"/RYE system has approximately 70 remote terminals (i.e., Model 35 Teleprinter, UNIVAC 1004 High Speed Printer or High Speed Punch Paper Tape Reader), strategically located throughout the NSA Operations Building, Fort Meade, Maryland. One of the remote stations, however, is located in an adjacent building and operates over a secure 2400 BPS circuit. The philosophy in NSA is that the remote terminals are operated by the users themselves (i.e., managers, technicians, analysts, clerks, etc.) rather than specially trained data processing personnel. The Model 35 teleprinter is easy to obtain, install and move. Currently between 1000 and 1200 inputs (i.e., interrogations and file maintenance transactions) per day are being processed in TIPS "PILOT" and this volume is growing steadily. Preliminary studies indicate the cost of an input on TIPS "PILOT" ranges between \$.52 and \$1.32. However, these figures are still in the process of being refined.

25X1

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

Incl:

NSA/T1 MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD, Subj: DIA's Request for Technical Assistance in Implementation of Project COINS, dated 11 May 1966

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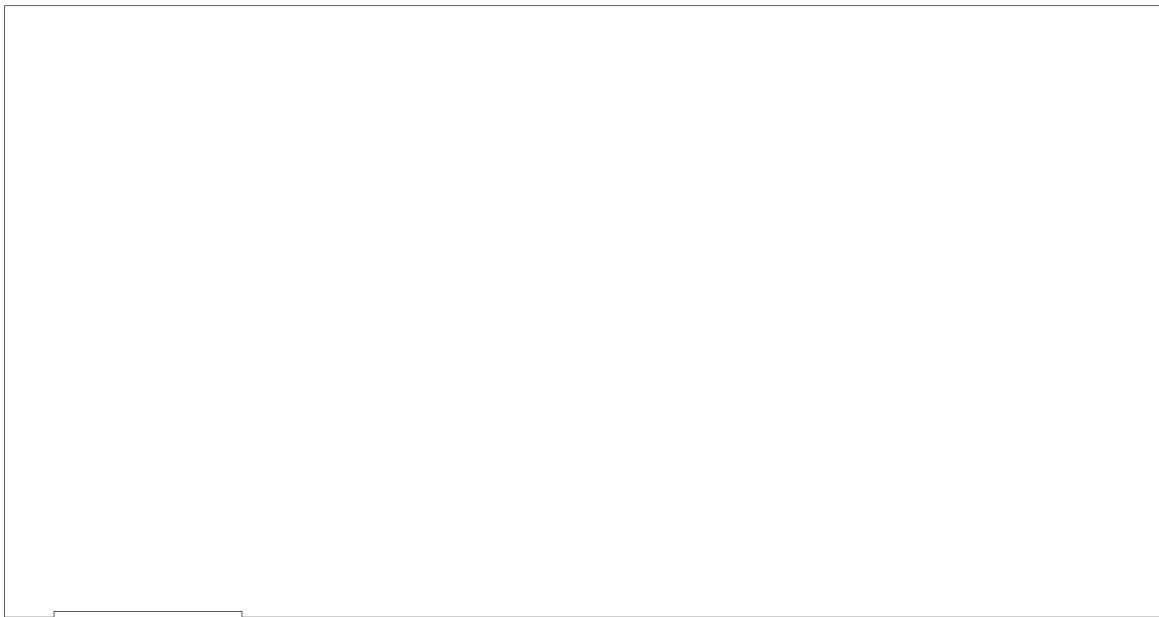
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

7 Mar 66

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 2 March 1966

1. The COINS meeting was held in NSA on 2 March 1966 from 1020 - 1130.
2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



25X1

3. [redacted] announced that a hardware/software meeting took place during the week and that Phase I of COINS is expected to resemble the example in Incl. 1. The following actions are pending as a result of this meeting:

- a. DIA will advise NSA if it required two MODEMS.
 - b. NSA will investigate whether or not it can provide DIA with 3 HN9's and 1 MO-13.
 - c. NPIC will advise NSA and DIA as to whether or not it can procure and install the necessary communication and crypto-equipment by 1 Dec 66.
4. DIA has agreed to serve as the communications control in COINS I and, in addition, has agreed to:

GROUP-3
Downgraded at 12 year
interval, not
automatically declassified

a. Prepare and install the necessary communications and crypto-equipment.

b. Rent the data links necessary for computer-to-computer communications between (1) DIA and NSA and (2) DIA and NPIC. DIA will pay for the communications lines up to the NSA and the NPIC buildings. Funding for the DIA/NSA links is already under way.

25X1 5. Both NSA and NPIC are currently upgrading their existing UNIVAC 490 system with UNIVAC 494's. Arrangements have been concluded whereby there will be an exchange of software and, as a result, the interrogations procedures of NSA and NPIC will be alike. [redacted] NPIC, said that he expects two of his people to be working with the NSA/C442 software people within the next month.

6. The State Department is planning to have a remote station (i.e., model teleprinter) tied into the DIA system. The State Department will use the same interrogation procedure as any other DIA remote station.

25X1 a. The remote station at State will be 100 wpm teletype link and will require KW7's (one send and one receive) which are difficult to obtain.

25X1 b. [redacted] pointed out that DIA expects State to pay for everything up to the DIA site. He added that should State develop their own remote interrogation system and desire to connect into the COINS network, DIA would pay for everything up to State site-- the same as they are doing for NPIC and NSA.

25X1 7. [redacted] drew a diagram of the IBM 7740 at DIA and its connections. It is attached as Incl. 2. He said that the IBM 7740 could still take one more member to the COINS network, during Phase I of COINS.

8. A brief discussion followed on the first draft of COINS I paper. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, 7 Mar at NSA and all organizations are expected to have final comments on the draft at that time.

9. The Chairman questioned whether or not NPIC and DIA would be willing to provide the detailed information necessary for NSA to develop simulation model of COINS I. Members indicated that they would check.

10. Afternoon session between DIA and NSA finalized the message formats involved in the computer-to-computer exchange of interrogations.



Chairman, COINS Committee

25X1

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

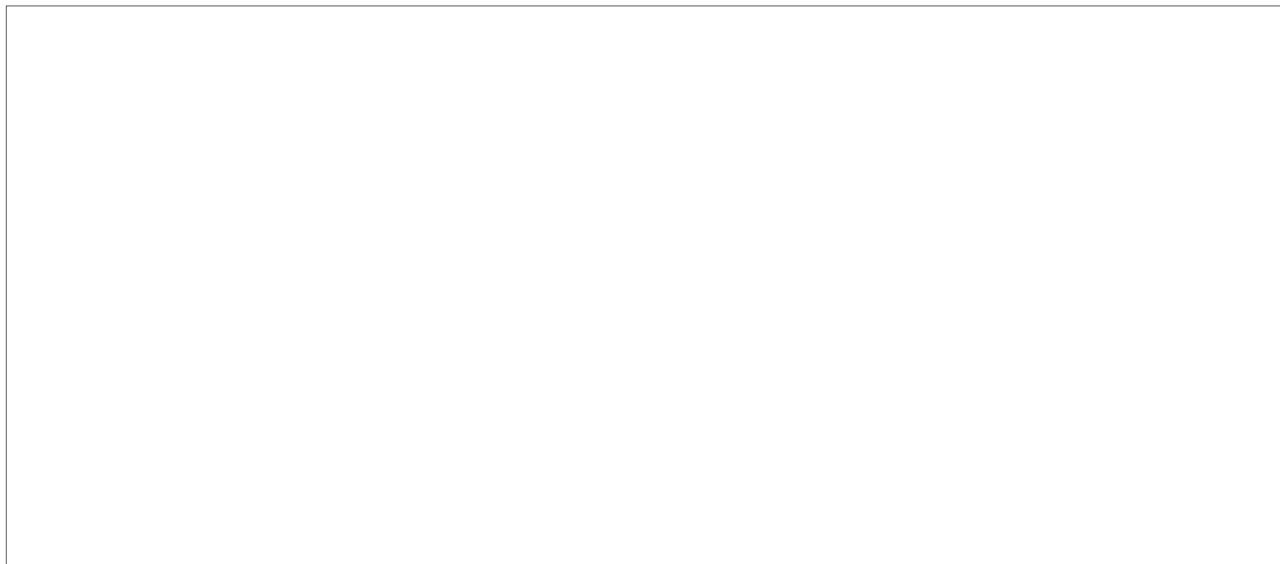
3 Feb 66

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Meeting 19 January 1966

1. The COINS meeting was held in NSA on 19 January 1966 from 1000 to 1140.

2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



3. The inclosure to the minutes dtd 1 Dec 65 was inadvertently classified with the caveate, HVCCO, and should be destroyed. It will be re-issued in the near future.

25X1

4. [redacted] stated the following in reviewing the status of Phase I of COINS:

a. The parity check bit on the eight level code (i.e., ASCII) will provide a limited but acceptable amount of error detection. Therefore, EDC equipment will not be required for the DIA/NSA link. However, should operating experience warrant, such equipment may be installed at a later time. (Copies of two ASCII code are attached as Inclosure No. 3 to COINS members' copies of these minutes.)

b. As previously indicated there are basically two types of interrogations in COINS I, namely; (a) specific or "canned" interrogations and (b) single file interrogations using a simple users language. Discussions with respect to multi-file interrogation using a users language will be held in abeyance until a later time. However, multi-file interrogation of the NSA files using the specific or "canned" interrogations will be permitted. It is recognized that the use of this elementary users language will probably require the transmission of more information than would be required if a more sophisticated users language was employed.

c. Software discussion between NSA and DIA have been essentially concluded and it has been agreed that the necessary software can be written by DIA and NSA to permit DIA to interrogate files in the NSA system (i.e., RYE/TIPS) and vice versa. As a result of these discussions, a series of displays have been prepared showing the message formats and receipts involved

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in exchanging interrogations. The objectives of these discussions were to (a) determine the feasibility and (b) identify the major items of software required so that an estimate of manpower could be made.

d. Planning charts are now being developed with respect to implementation costs for each major task in terms of dollars, manpower and time. A copy of the proposed planning chart is included as Inclosure No. 4. The objective is to implement COINS I in Sept-Nov 66. Following are the constraints imposed on scheduling:

(1) The connection to NSA cannot be completed until after the RYE system is upgraded which is tentatively scheduled for 1st Qtr FT-67 (Jul - Sep 66).

(2) The connection to NPIC cannot be completed until after they have upgraded their system from a UNIVAC 490 to a UNIVAC 494. The hardware is to be delivered in May 66 and the necessary software is now scheduled for delivery in October 1966.

(3) The connection to DIA cannot be completed until after the IBM 1410/ISIC becomes operational which is tentatively scheduled for March or April 1966.

e. Mr. Pruden (STATE) and [] (DIA) will develop a Memorandum of Agreement between DIA and STATE which at a minimum should: 25X1

(1) Provide assurance that the communications line to STATE and the remote console located in STATE will be protected to TOP SECRET.

(2) Indicate the tentative date the communication line and remote station will be installed to STATE.

(3) Indicate the tentative date when DIA personnel will commence the training of STATE personnel in the use of the DIA/ISIC query language.

(4) Provide a breakdown of the costs involved indicating which Agencies will pay which costs.

f. DIA has indicated that all of the files in DIA/ISIC will be made available for COINS.

g. Specialists from different interest areas will be brought together in panels under the auspices of the COINS Committee to develop acceptable data standard for COINS. The panels will cover such areas [] 25X1

h. A series of meetings will now be arranged between NSA, NPIC and DIA.

(1) First set of meetings will be held during the week of 31 Jan 66. Objective is to arrive at an agreement on communications and hardware. Does NPIC want DIA to act as a switch?

(2) Second Set of Meetings - Determine software changes required by each agency.

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(3) Third Set of Meetings - Determine the files that will be made available by each agency for COINS I and the degree of data standardization required.

5. Mr. Pruden stated that Mr. Hughes appeared to be quite pleased with his recent TIPS briefing and wants to see the TIPS system personally. A tour was tentatively planned for the 1st week in February.

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6. [redacted] presented file descriptions for the following DIA files in COINS:

[redacted]

25X1

25X1

7. [redacted] said that he would like to have file descriptions of NSA COINS files at the next COINS meeting.

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[redacted]

a. When is this file going to be part of a remote retrieval system?

b. Since this file and computer complex is unclassified, can security safeguards be built in to permit COINS members to interrogate the file? (The reverse would not be permitted, i.e., FTD could not interrogate COINS files.)

c. Would DIA connect this system to the IBM 7740?

25X1

9. [redacted] offered to set up exchange briefings for the Committee to be briefed on CHIVE and LDX and [redacted] would brief selected CIA personnel on COINS.

25X1

10. The next meeting will be scheduled for February 2.

11. Two draft papers on interrogations are attached as Inclosures No. 1 & 2.

[redacted]

25X1

Chairman COINS Committee

4 Incls:

a/s

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COINS

1. Scope of Interrogations

a. The most elementary information retrieval system conceived would permit remote consoles in one agency to interrogate (or look up) information in another agency's file. However, in such an elementary stage there would be no provisions for melding together into a composite answer information obtained from interrogating several different files. Adoption of this approach negates to a large extent the need for standardization of data elements as the information is not to be merged for machine processing.

(1) This approach is simply automating the situation which exists today where periodically each agency receives the reports published by other agencies. Then the analysts manually search through and cross-reference these reports in an effort to find the desired information. Needless to say, this is a laborious and time-consuming process. Generally, these reports have gone through a publication and distribution process and as a result the information contained in them is quite old.

(2) However, there are still some advantages to be gained in adopting this procedure particularly in the early development stages of COINS when all organizations are learning.

(a) Information obtained from interrogating files in such a system would be more current than that which is contained in a hard-copy machine listing or report as such reports have generally gone through a publication and distribution process. Further, such a system will not immediately eliminate the need for publishing or distributing hard-copy reports, but it should eventually reduce the number of copies desired and perhaps the frequency of publication.

(b) Only the actual information specified in the interrogation would be received.

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(c) Eliminates the necessity for manually searching large, bulky machine listings. However, the answers derived from interrogating several files independently would still have to be melded together manually off-line in the same fashion as they are today.

(d) Search on any field or combination of fields in the file. Today published reports are often sorted and published on one or two fields making searching on non-sorted fields difficult.

(e) Eliminates necessity for standardizing data elements and items, a subject which is quite parochial in some agencies.

b. A more advanced information retrieval system would permit one Agency to interrogate all of the appropriate files in COINS with one interrogation. The individual answers received from such a multi-file interrogation would be melded together, processed and formulated before being printed out at the appropriate remote console. This approach has all of the advantages of the elementary system, but it eliminates the need for manually cross-referencing the answers received from several unique interrogations. However, this approach necessitates:

- (1) Standardization of data elements or
- (2) Adoption of acceptable translation tables when data elements cannot be standardized.

2. Interrogation Strategies.- There are basically two distinct types of interrogation strategies; namely, file oriented interrogations and subject oriented interrogations. It appears that each has its own set of advantages and disadvantages, and, therefore both strategies should eventually be provided for in COINS.

a. File Oriented Interrogations. This is the interrogation strategy that will be employed in COINS I. The users or analysts making the interrogation must be knowledgeable of the file or files being interrogated.

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This required the exchange of much data between agencies as well as considerable study on the part of the users. Specifically, this means that the users must know the:

- (1) Name of the file or files being interrogated
- (2) Name of the field or fields in the file or files being interrogated and
- (3) Data elements (i.e., how the information is recorded) in the file being interrogated.

b. Subject Oriented Interrogation. When using this type of interrogation the users do not have to know anything about the file or files which must be interrogated (or searched) by the systems to derive the desired answer. Simply stated the user merely indicates the subject on which information is desired and leaves it up to the system to find the necessary information. However, when using this type of interrogation the users must:

- (1) Use standard data elements (field names) and data items (elements of search) or acceptable synonyms,
- (2) Provide as much ancillary information as possible with respect to the elements of search (i.e., data items) to narrow down the number of files to be searched.

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3. File Organization. Several cases have been found where organizations are maintaining duplicate or nearly duplicate machine files of information. The question now arises as how to best organize these files to avoid unnecessary duplication. For example, supposing NSA, DIA and CIA are maintaining machine files containing essentially the same information

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[Redacted]

a. Should one agency be made executive agent for the file? This arrangement would mean that only one file would have to be interrogated in one computer system. It also means that arrangements would have to be made to permit more than one organization to update a given file. For example, NSA would enter items derived from SIGINT, flagging such items accordingly.

b. Should each agency maintain the same file eliminating as much duplication as possible in each file. This arrangement means that three files would have to be interrogated to get an answer and that each agency would update its own file.

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INTERROGATIONS

INTERROGATION TECHNIQUE

ADVANTAGES

DISADVANTAGES

1. Specific or "Canned" Interrogation Programs

a. Users do not need to be trained in the use of a retrieval language or a complex input-interrogation format.

a. Means a separate program must be written for each interrogation but the amount of original programming required will be reduced through the use of common sub-routines.

b. The use of a short interrogation statement reduces the number of:

(1) Key strokes required by users.

b. Restricts the users to a canned set of questions & answers. Therefore, to obtain desired information the user may have to:

(2) Error-likely situation that might occur when the users are required to type in a long, rigidly formatted interrogation statement.

(1) Ask more than one canned question.

a. Permits a user to formulate & enter immediately interrogations which have not been pre-programmed. This is particularly useful if time is critical.

(2) Write a new program. The writing of a new program will require time; how long will partly depend on how much prior coding from other interrogation sub-routines can be incorporated in the new interrogation program.

2. Interrogation Language

b. Eliminates the necessity of writing a separate program each time a new combination of info is required by the users.

a. Means that a retrieval language must be developed which is common to all the files in the system, and all interrogations & file maintenance inputs.

b. A compiler must be developed & written to translate each interrogation statement into a program. This requires a large number of system programmers who are not currently available.

c. Users are required to be trained in the use of a retrieval language and a complex input-interrogation format.

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RECORDS DISPOSITION
Destroy 20 years after completion of project.

PLANNING CHART - Calendar & Fiscal Years

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20 January 1966

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 5 January 1966

1. The COINS meeting was held at NSA 5 January 1966 from 1035 to 1150.

2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



*CODIB Support Staff, CIA

25X1

3. [redacted] handed out an estimate of the communications equipment and costs for links in COINS, Phase I. This estimate has already been included as an inclosure to the minutes of the last meeting. (dtd 15 Dec 65)

25X1

4. [redacted] read a transcript relative to his 16 December briefing of CODIB on the status of COINS. An excerpt from this briefing has also been included as an inclosure to the minutes of the last meeting. Considerable discussion followed on the importance of designating the source of the information contained in COINS Files. Inclosure 1 to these minutes summarizes the problem.

25X1

5. [redacted] discussed in detail the message format required by NSA for inquiries from DIA. At the next meeting the message format required by DIA will be discussed.

25X1

6. [redacted] announced that on 3 December 1965, Dr. William A. Baker, Chairman of NSA Scientific Advisory Board was given a tour of TIPS/PILOT. On 9 December 1965, Mr. William Knox and Mr. Thomas McFee, members of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, were given a tour of TIPS. Mr. William Knox is the Chairman of a special committee established under the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board to assist the Intelligence Community in the mechanization of information handling. Mr. McFee is the Executive

GROUP 3

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR

INTERVALS: NOT

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Secretary of the Committee. The full committee was briefed on TIPS/RYE on 19 December 1965.

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7. [redacted] passed out a detailed description of a DIA file to be included in COINS.

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8. [redacted] stated that at the next COINS meeting he expected to discuss kinds of files and the breakdown of these files in detail.

9. The next meeting will be held 19 January 1966.

25X1

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

Incl 1:
a/s

GROUP 3
DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS: NOT
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED

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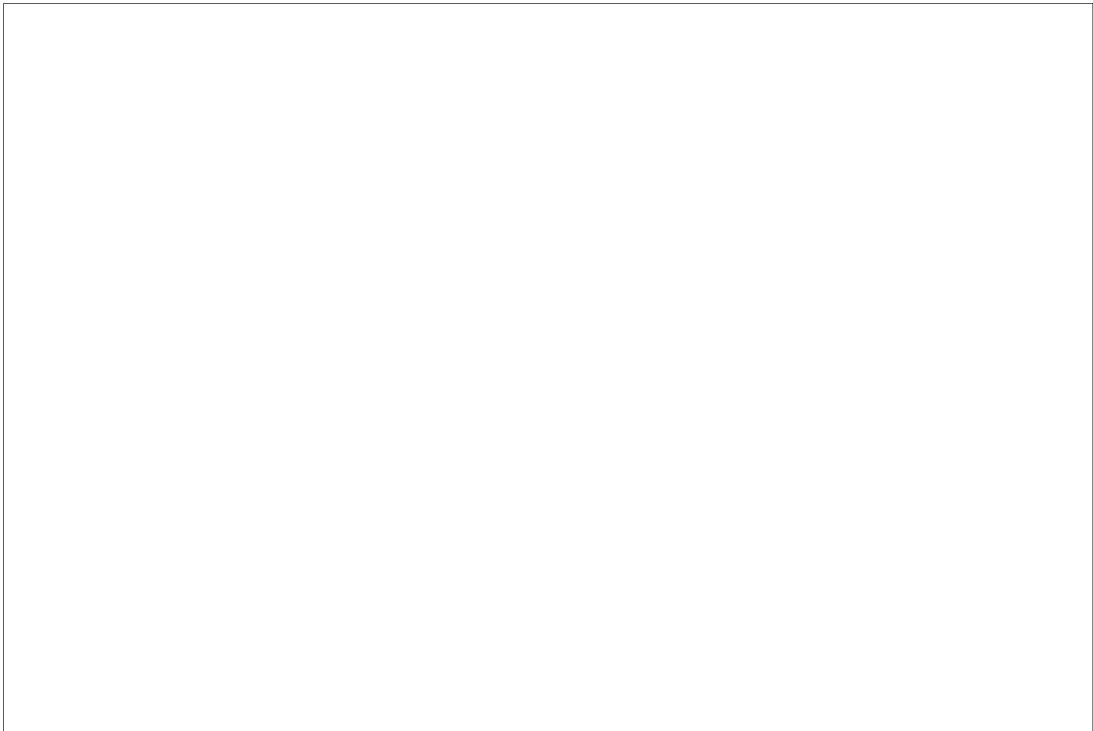
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 15 December 1965

1. The COINS meeting was held at NSA 15 December 1965 from 1010 to 1120.
2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



25X1 3. [redacted] reviewed briefly the software negotiations between DIA and NSA.

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a. There are two basic types of interrogations in COINS, namely; specific or "canned" interrogations and interrogation prepared using a users' language. For the purpose of this paper only two levels of sophistication have been identified within the users' language.

(1) Level I - Users can specify the (a) file or files to be searched (b) fields to be searched in the specified file(s) and (c) elements of information to be searched for in the fields specified. Entire records meeting this criteria will be extracted from the file(s) indicated and forwarded to the requesting agency for further processing (i.e., merging, sorting, summarizing and formatting). Selection of records is based on "and" relationship only.

(2) Level II - Users can specify:

(a) The file or files to be searched by name

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Downgraded at 12 year
Intervals; not
automatically declassified

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- (b) The field or fields to be searched by name
- (c) The elements of information to be searched for in the specified fields.

In addition, the user can qualify his interrogation using full range of Boolean expressions (e.g., and, or, near equal, greater than, etc.). Further, the user can specify the processing to be performed on the extracted records (e.g., merging, sorting, summarizing and formatting) before they are transmitted to the requesting Agency.

b. For the purpose of COINS - Phase I only the specific (or canned) interrogation and Level I of the Users' language will be used. This approach is necessary because NSA (TIPS/RYE) does not presently have a users' language containing the latter level of sophistication. However, such a users' language is now being developed in NSA and it will be available in TIPS I (Jul 66 to Jul 68).

c. DIA to NSA Format

(1) An IBM 1410 program must be written by DIA to reformat their interrogations destined for NSA into a format acceptable to the NSA computer system.

(2) An "Acceptor" program must be written by NSA to analyze the incoming DIA interrogations to insure that DIA is authorized to interrogate the file(s) or use the specific program indicated in the message and that they are currently available in the system.

d. NSA to DIA Format - A UNIVAC 494 program must be written by NSA to reformat their interrogations destined for DIA into a format acceptable to the DIA computer system. The message format for communicating interrogations from NSA to DIA will be discussed at the next software meeting between NSA and DIA tentatively scheduled for early January 1966.

25X1
4. In answer to [redacted] request at the last COINS meeting, [redacted] stated that the IBM 7740 at DIA is capable of acting as a switch in the first COINS system. He also stated that State had requested an outstation on DIA's 1410 system in order to participate as a user in the COINS system. Initial reaction at DIA was favorable. Mr. Pruden added that the outstation would be maintained in a TOP SECRET CODEWORD area.

25X1

5. A draft of the status of the COINS network was given out by [redacted] for discussion.

25X1
6. [redacted] brought up the point that perhaps some method should be built into the system for an analyst at "A" to notify an analyst at agency "B" that he considered a particular data item in a file at Agency "B" to be incorrect.

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7. It was decided that the initial COINS network linking the remote access system of DIA, NSA and NPIC will be known as Phase I of COINS. Phase I is tentatively scheduled to go into effect in August or September 1966. Inclosure No. 1 is a diagram of Phase I. Phase II of COINS is scheduled for mid-1968; this will include all five agencies and is shown in Inclosure No. 2.

8. Standardization of data elements was discussed and it was agreed that the Committee would use data elements approved by USIB and adopted by the Community wherever such exists.

25X1

9. [redacted] stated that he would be prepared at the next COINS meeting to elaborate on COINS interrogations and the formats required by NSA and DIA. He asked committee members to be prepared to (a) discuss the draft paper in detail, (b) give detailed information on the files they are nominating for Phase I and (c) give a tentative list of the files for Phase II.

10. The next COINS meeting will be held on 5 January 1966.

25X1

[redacted]
Chairman, COINS Committee

4 Incls:

1. & 2. a/s
3. CODIB Minutes, dtd 23 Dec 65
4. Cost Estimate of Communications Equip.

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12. [redacted] hopes that by February 1966 all specification for the Phase I system can be completed and that the equipment can be installed by August 1966. By then, NSA will have converted from UNIVAC 490's to 494's and NPIC will also have its 494. Except for NPIC, CIA has not indicated an intention to participate in the Phase I system.

13. Later on in Phase II, as more agencies join the system, in order to economize on equipment and communication lines, it is planned that one agency will act as a switching station to link the agencies together. The Working Group is now trying to determine which agency will be the switch. NSA has decided that it will not be the switch. Phase II will be about one year and a half behind Phase I.

14. The question of how to prevent false confirmation of information from different files was raised, i.e., data from the same source may be filed by two agencies and on output from COINS it may appear to be from two separate sources. [redacted] stated that an Office of Primary Interest (OPI) would be necessary for each type of data. [redacted] stated that for one set of NSA files in TIPS there is a complete historical backup showing all changes to the files. This approach could be used for COINS files if required.

25X1

25X1

15. A tape recording of [redacted] briefing is available in the CODIB Support Staff.

16. [redacted] indicated that the Long Distance Xerography (LDX) system might be considered a poor-man's version of COINS and that a briefing and demonstration to CODIB might be useful. He will try to schedule such for the next meeting."

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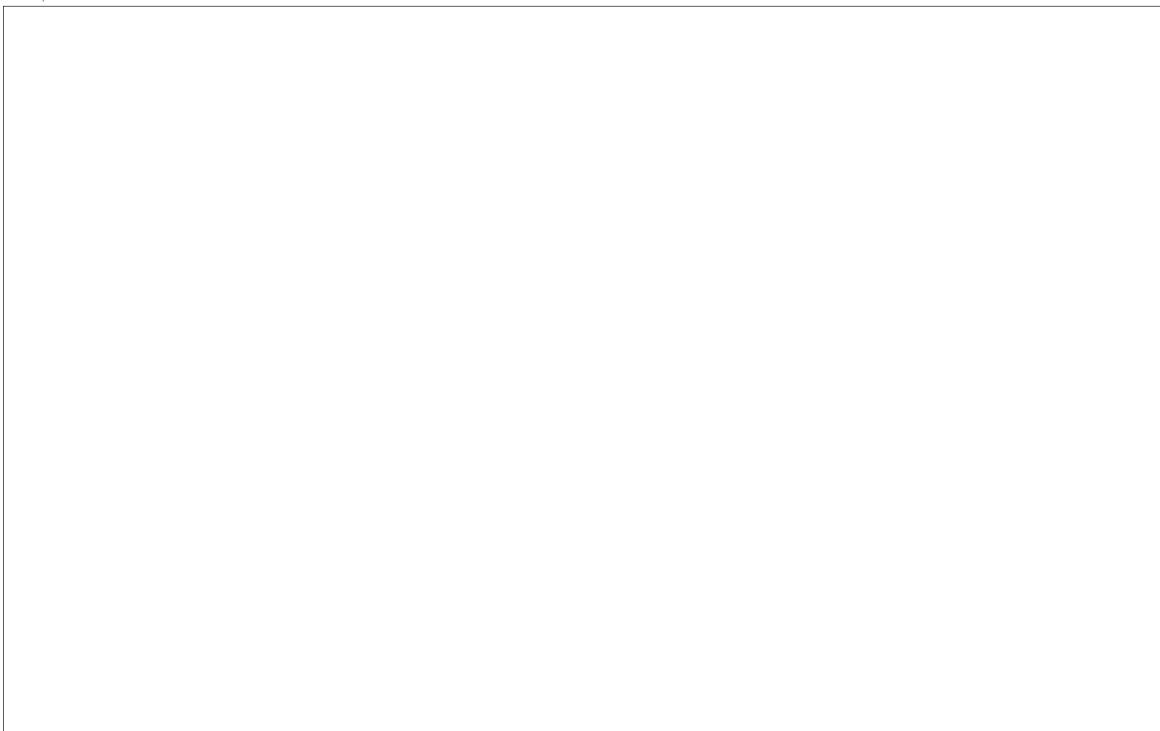
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 1 December 1965

1. The COINS meeting was held at NSA 1 December 1965 from 1010 to 1145.

2. The following individuals were present:



25X1

25X1 3. [redacted] said he had discussed the possibility of CIA's acting as a communications hub for COINS with CIA's communications people and they had agreed that such is in accord with their charter. He went on to say that the details of a COINS Communication switch were, of course, not concrete at the present time but expressed his current thinking along these lines. (Shown in the inclosure to these minutes.)

25X1 4. At this point, [redacted] to look into the possibility of DIA acting as a switch in the initial COINS network linking the remote access systems of DIA, NPIC and NSA.

25X1 5. [redacted] stated that NPIC had not yet selected a file suitable for inclusion in COINS. He also stated that NPIC's UNIVAC 494 is due the end of next September.

25X1 6. [redacted] to try and let the Committee know at the next meeting what files NPIC plans to put in COINS.

25X1 7. [redacted] NSA, briefed the Committee on the simulation of TIPS "PILOT."

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Downgraded to 1 year

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8. A discussion followed relative to the merits of tapes versus random access devices as storage media for information retrieval systems.
9. The next meeting will be held on 15 December 1965.

[Redacted]
Chairman COINS Committee

Incl:
a/s

25X1

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CONFIDENTIAL

I. SECURITY

1. PRIME FACTOR - Security is a prime factor of consideration in establishing COINS.

a. Initially, in COINS PILOT all computer complexes, remote stations and communication will be protected to TOP SECRET CODEWORD. This approach will avoid the multi-level classification problem.

b. However, the ultimate system must be capable of handling the multi-level classification problem.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES - Each Agency is responsible for its own internal security. Specifically, it must insure that software and hardware built into its computer system afford the degree of security required. For example, each Agency is responsible for insuring that:

a. Files are not accessed by unauthorized external organizations either for the purpose of interrogation or file maintenance.

b. Responses are delivered to the appropriate remote station consistent with security requirements.

II. FILES

1. GENERAL

a. Each Agency has in its own remote access computer system a large number of information files of interest to other agencies.

2. CATEGORIES OF FILES

There can be two categories of files in each Agency's system: namely,

a. Those files which are available for use by other members of the community.

b. Those files which are not available for use by other members of the community. Each Agency is responsible for building the necessary safeguards into their own system to prevent the unauthorized access to these files by external Agencies. For example: in TIPS at NSA there are a large number of files which are reserved for internal use only. These files will not be made available to COINS.

3. FILE NAMES

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4. DATA ELEMENTS STANDARDIZATION

a. Standards will be established for the files in COINS insofar as it is practicable. However, it is recognized that, for one reason or another, it will not always be possible to achieve complete standardization of all data elements for all Agencies in the Intelligence Community. For example, an Agency may have already adopted some standards for its internal operations and to change would require extensive changes in:

- (1) File format and content
- (2) Computer programs
- (3) Input/output formats
- (4) Directives and procedures
- (5) Training courses.

b. Therefore, translation tables will have to be constructed to translate between the standard and the non-standard.

c. Standards adopted for the files in COINS will not be binding on the other machine files of each Agency which are not part of COINS.

d. Each Agency will be responsible for correcting the information in their files to accepted standards.

5. FILE ORGANIZATION AND FORMATTING

Each Agency is responsible for organizing and formatting its own files. In addition, each Agency is responsible for keeping other using Agencies informed of any significant changes in file format, content, or accuracy.

6. FILE MAINTENANCE

The system will not permit an Agency to update the information in the files of another Agency; (i.e., NSA cannot update or modify information contained in the DIA files, and vice versa).

III. INTERROGATION

1. OBJECTIVE

The principal objective of COINS is to permit a remote console in any member Agency to interrogate the files of other Agencies via a secure computer-to-computer link.

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2. ASSUMPTIONS

It is assumed that:

a. Each member Agency will have complete knowledge and familiarity with the COINS files of the other Agencies, particularly with respect to file names, field names, content data elements, etc.

b. Some standards will be established with respect to file names, field names and data elements. This is essential if information is to be extracted from the file of more than one Agency and merged in subsequent processing.

3. TYPE OF INTERROGATIONS

There are two distinct types of interrogations which must be accommodated in the system, each having its own set of advantages and disadvantages, namely:

4. SPECIFIC (canned) INTERROGATIONS

a. The names of the program alone specifies the:

(1) File or files to be searched

(2) Field or fields within these file(s) to be searched

(3) Processing (i.e., merging or summarization) to be performed on the desired records extracted and

(4) Output format

b. The answers (or results) or specific interrogations will be automatically forwarded to the computer system of the requesting Agency for:

(1) Output to the appropriate remote system(s) or

(2) Input to another program for subsequent processing (i.e., merging with information received from another program, reformatting, etc.)

c. Each Agency will make available to the community existing "specific (canned) interrogation programs" for those files which are to be included in COINS. If an existing specific interrogation program does not satisfy the needs of another Agency, the following options will be made available to the requesting Agency:

(1) Write a specific interrogation program for inclusion in the program library of the computer system of the Agency having the desired file(s). The program will be written in accordance with the procedures and convention established for that system. For example, NSA might have to write a specific interrogation program for inclusion in the DIA/IBM 1410 system and conversely DIA might have to write a specific interrogation program for inclusion in the NSA/UNIVAC 494 (TIPS) system. This means that DIA would require a limited number of RYE/TIPS programmers and NSA would require some IBM 1410/IDHS programmers.

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(2) Write a specific interrogation program for their own system which merges or reformats the results (answers) received from other computer systems. The results of a single, specific interrogation may not produce the desired results (answers) from the data received from the other computer systems, or be in the desired format. However, the desired results might be obtained by reformatting the answer or by combining all or parts of the answers derived from two or more specific interrogation programs. For example,

(a) An analyst at DIA can enter a specific interrogation called "ABLE" from his remote console

(b) The DIA computer will recognize that in order to answer this interrogation, it must in turn automatically initiate two specific interrogations available in the NSA computer called "BAKER" and "CHARLIE".

(c) When the results of these two interrogations are received, the DIA computer will merge and/or reformat the results and output them to the requesting remote console. When this technique is used, the DIA analyst does not have to know the names of the specific programs in the NSA system.

(3) It should be noted that the DIA analyst could have requested the results of NSA's specific interrogation programs by merely inserting BAKER and CHARLIE. However, it would have required two separate interrogations and the results would not have been combined.

5. USERS LANGUAGE

a. Currently the "users language" in each system is different, and in each case they are dependent upon the sophistication of the software, as well as the size of the computer complex procured and installed by the participating Agencies.

b. Initially users at remote stations need only learn the users language and priority scheme available within their own computer system. The users will not have to learn the language employed by other Agencies. For example, DIA will not have to learn the NSA language or procedures, nor vice versa. Instead, a computer program will be written in each system to translate and format incoming interrogations into a form acceptable to another Agency's computer.

c. Long range objective is to develop a computer-independent users language for the intelligence community. The many languages used in the pilot system will provide the experience necessary for establishing the specifications for this language.

d. Analysts using this language will be able to extract the desired records from the appropriate file or files in the systems of other Agencies. After which these records can be either:

(1) Forwarded in their complete form to the requesting Agency

(2) Summarized in some prescribed fashion in which case the summarized results will be forwarded to the requesting Agency.

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e. Upon receipt of these results (i.e., either the set of complete records or a summarized version) the computer of the requesting Agency can:

(1) Transmit the results to the appropriate remote station or stations in their complex.

(2) Use the results as input to another program for further processing (i.e., merging with information received from the files in the systems of other Agencies, further summarization or formatting.)

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

1. GENERAL - A meeting was held at DIA on 8 November 1965 to determine the hardware and communications facilities required to link the DIA/IBM 1410 to the NSA/UNIVAC 494. Appendix I is a chart depicting the hardware and communications facilities required for this link.

2. POINTS OF AGREEMENT - Tentative agreements were reached with respect to the following points:

a. TRANSMISSION RATE - Initially the transmission rate will be 2400 bits per second IBPS) with a gradual increase to 9600 BPS.

b. SECURITY

(1) All transmissions will be protected to TOP SECRET CODEWORD.

(2) All computer complexes including all remote stations will be located in an area protected to TOP SECRET CODEWORD.

c. STANDARD COMMUNICATIONS CODE - The American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) will be used for transmitting data between the NSA (UNIVAC 494) and the DIA (IBM 1410). This means that DIA will have to include a conversion table in their IBM 7740 to convert from ASCII to BCD and vice versa.

d. LENGTH-OF-MESSAGE - Messages exchanged between the two computers will always be transmitted in blocks of 150 characters, using multiple messages of 150 characters whenever necessary. If a message is shorter than 150 characters then it will be padded out until it equals 150 characters.

e. MESSAGE TRANSMISSION - Messages will be transmitted every 15 seconds until a receipt is received from the receiving Agency's computer.

f. TIME-OF-OPERATION - The computers will be linked together and available for remote interrogation 24-hours per day, seven days a week.

g. ERROR DETECTION CORRECTION TERMINALS - A question still exists as to whether or not an error detection and correction (EDC) terminal is required at each end of the link or whether sufficient error detection and correction capability can be built into the software of each Agency's system .

[redacted] It was agreed that final determination on this point would wait until the software people from NSA and DIA had concluded their talks.

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h. TRANSMISSION OF FILES - Total files will not be transmitted between systems as this would defeat the purpose and objective of this effort.

3. COMMUNICATIONS HUB - There is a requirement for a secure communications network to permit direct, on-line, linkage of the various remote access computer systems of the Intelligence Community. CIA has tentatively accepted responsibility for acting as the communications hub for the Intelligence Community.

4. TYPES OF MESSAGES - Following are the four types of messages which will be exchanged on the computer-to-computer link between NSA and DIA:

a. Request or Interrogation.

b. Receipt

c. Response

(1) Answer to interrogation, including negative answer.

(2) Messages indicating that the files are not available or interrogation not authorized, etc.

d. Service Messages

5. METHOD OF OPERATIONS

a. Requests (or interrogations) which require information from files in another Agency's system will be transmitted to the appropriate Agency via secure data link. The computer of the requesting Agency will continue to transmit a request (interrogation) at 15 second intervals until a receipt number is received for the request from the computer system of the other Agency. The next request (interrogation) will not be transmitted until the receipt has been received by the requesting Agency for the preceding interrogation. This does not mean that the receiving Agency does not queue this request.

b. The computer system receiving the request will:

(1) First, receipt for the request.

(2) Second, validate the request by determining:

(a) Specific interrogations are available to external organizations and are properly formatted.

(b) The file or files to be searched are currently available in the system.

(c) Requesting organization is authorized to search the files specified.

(3) Third, prepare and forward a proper response message to requesting Agency's computer system.

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- c. The computer system of the requesting Agency will be responsible for:
- (1) Handling its own bookkeeping and none of this type of information needs to be transmitted between computer systems. This includes such elements of information as:
- (a) Receipt or job number assigned to each request (interrogation) submitted from a remote station.
 - (b) Date and time request was submitted from a remote station.
 - (c) Number of the remote station submitted the request or which is to receive the answer.
- (2) Maintaining records with respect to requests, receipt and responses transmitted between the various computers. This will include such information as:
- (a) Receipt or job number assigned by the computer system of the external Agency's computer. It will also relate this job number (receipt) to the job number (receipt) assigned to the request when it was received from the remote station.
 - (b) Date and time messages (i.e., requests, receipt and response) were transmitted to and received from the external computer.
- (3) Processing or manipulating the information received in response to an interrogation. This will involve such processing as:
- (a) Melding information extracted from several files.
 - (b) Summarizing and formatting the output.
 - (c) Checking the classification level of a response and insure that the remote station is authorized to receive this data.
 - (d) Forwarding output to appropriate remote station determining that all security considerations have been met.

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7 Dec 65

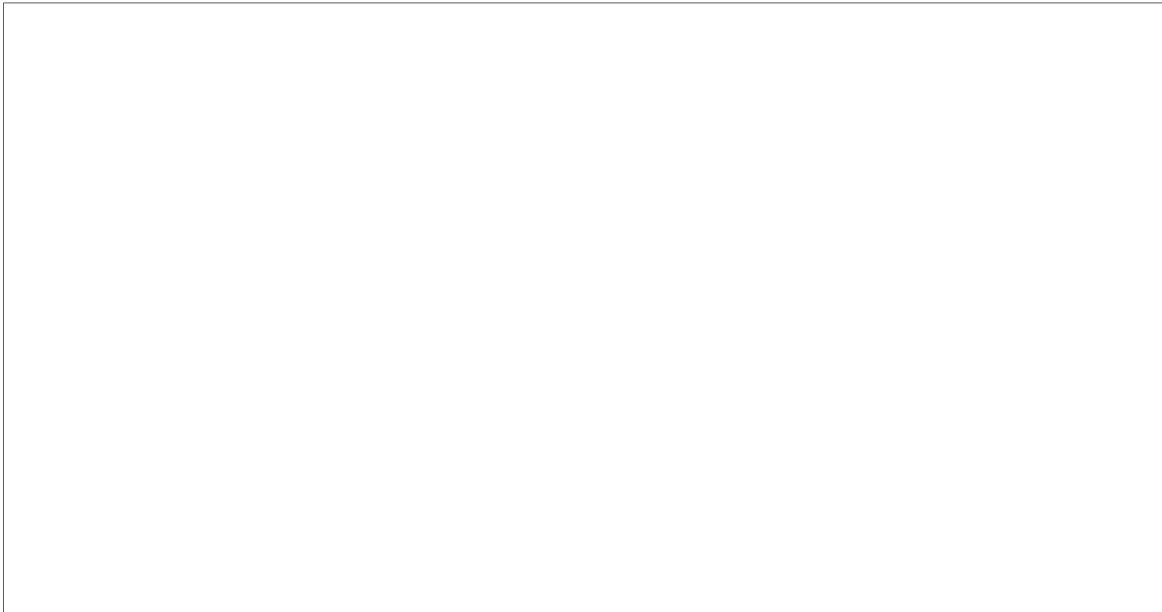
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 17 November 1965

1. The COINS meeting was held at NSA 17 November 1965 from 1010 to 1120.

2. The following individuals were present:

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17
NOV
65

25X1 3. [] explained the hardware implementation of the DIA/NSA COINS interface, the details of which are contained in Inclosure #1 of 25X1 these minutes.

4. Relative to software development on the DIA/NSA interface, [] stated briefly that messages between computers would probably consist of Requests, Receipts and Responses. Requests will have a header and body; the body to include files to be searched and fields to be searched. Receipts will consist primarily of Receipt Numbers. This Receipt number will imply that a request has been received. An Acceptor Program will determine if the file or files to be searched are available in the system and that the requesting organization is authorized to search the files specified. The Responses will consist of the Receipt Number and the records from the files specified by the requesting organization or a summary.

25X1 5. [] stated that as an initial step CIA will connect to the UNIVAC 490 at NPIC and later expects to bring their IBM 360/65 system into COINS.

Incl #1

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25X1

6. [redacted] if CIA would consider acting as communication hub for COINS and asked him if he could indicate CIA's position in this matter at the next meeting.

25X1

7. [redacted] asked that members be prepared to discuss the COINS Approach, Concept and Objectives at the next meeting and stated that he hoped to have a more detailed report on COINS software developments.

8. The next COINS meeting will be held 1 December 1965.

25X1



Chairman COINS Committee

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23 Nov 65

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 3 November 1965

1. The meeting of the COINS Committee was held in the NSA Operations Building from 1010 to 1200.

2. The following individuals were present:

25X1



3
NOV
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25X1 3. [redacted] reviewed the status of COINS for the benefit of representatives from STATE Department.

[redacted]

25X1 5. [redacted] reiterated DIA's intention to bring their IBM 1410 remote access system into COINS "PILOT" and stated that the following could be considered DIA's files in COINS "PILOT."

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*Alternates

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25X1

6. At this point the STATE representatives were taken on a tour of the RYE system. Those remaining discussed hardware problem in linking the DIA remote system to the RYE system. A meeting to discuss this problem was scheduled at DIA 8 November at 1000.

7. The next COINS meeting is scheduled at 17 November 1000 in the NSA Operations Building.

25X1

Chairman COINS Committee

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DRAFT WORKING PAPER

CONCEPT

The Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) concept is one involving an intelligence network of self-scheduling, remote-access computer systems. Member agencies will maintain their own finished and semi-processed information files within their own system, but will also be able to interrogate files maintained in the other systems in the network inter-agency communications from computer to computer, rather than between console and the computer of a specific agency.

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DRAFT WORKING PAPER

APPROACH

This concept will be achieved in two phases:

a. Phase I "PILOT" COINS - This phase of the effort will be implemented almost immediately using the current existing TIPS at NSA. The pilot system will include at least one formatted file from each member agency. This file should be of general community interest and must adhere to existing TIPS conventions. Currently the maximum length of TIPS records is 320 characters and the number of records per file ranges from 3000 to 80,000 records. The objective of this system is to gain realistic experience on problems associated with establishing, using and maintaining remote access computer systems within the intelligence community.

b. Phase II - COINS - This will be an "intelligence network" of self-scheduling remote-access computer systems communicating with one another via secure communications lines rather than a single computer system involving a set of centralized information files in one agency's system. This "intelligence network" would enable an agency to share the information files of other agencies in the intelligence community and still maintain their own files within their own remote-access system.

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OBJECTIVES

1. Reduce the duplication of effort by eliminating the necessity for maintaining and supporting a multiplicity of EDP programs and formatted files of similar content by direct interagency computer communication.
2. Improve the community's capability to exploit the ever increasing volume of intelligence by improving timeliness in the processing, maintenance and distribution of finished, semi-finished, and key intelligence information.
3. Provide a high degree of flexibility in managing, selecting, collating and distributing intelligence information.
4. Improve the opportunity for the effective utilization of finished, semi-finished and key intelligence information by making it readily accessible to technicians at various consumer and intelligence producing agencies in a useful time frame.
5. Establish a basis for designing and constructing a more sophisticated, dynamic intelligence network in the future.
6. Provide for a more effective and efficient utilization of equipment, manpower and time.
7. Develop the security requirements and controls necessary for dynamic intelligence information exchange.

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COINS PILOT

a. For the past two years the National Security Agency has been engaged in the development and implementation of a remote information retrieval system known as the Technical Information Processing System (TIPS). This project is being accomplished in three phases; namely, TIPS "PILOT," TIPS I and TIPS 68 (TIPIOES). The first two phases will be accomplished in-house; the latter phase however is being done by R4 with contractual assistance from California Analysis Center, Inc.

b. The TIPS "PILOT" is an experimental system that is being implemented using the available UNIVAC 490 remote access computer system (RYE). The pilot system is oriented towards formatted files.

Information contained in these files is of interest only to members

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[Redacted]

25X1

The pilot system is partly operational and should become fully operational by December 1965. Plans for the expansion and refinement of the pilot system (or TIPS I) are now being prepared. The decision to expand or not will be based on the results of an evaluation of the pilot system which is tentatively scheduled for December 1965.

25X1

c. The extention of TIPS "PILOT" to include other members of the Intelligence community are being prepared by a Committee, Chaired by [Redacted] NSA with representatives from DIA, CIA and State Department. Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) is the title being used for this effort. A "PILOT" COINS will be implemented

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almost immediately using the currently existing TIPS "PILOT" at NSA. This pilot system will include at least one formatted file of community interest from each member agency. The objective of this pilot system is to gain realistic experience in problems associated with establishing, using and maintaining a remote information retrieval system within the intelligence community.

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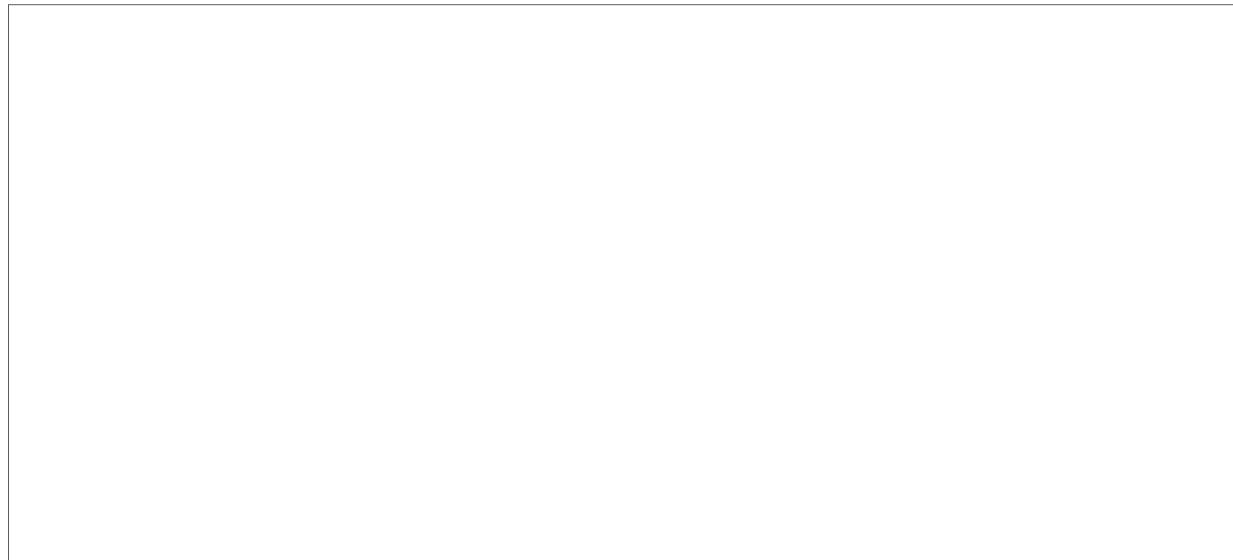
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

10 Nov 65

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 27 October 1965

25X1 1. The COINS meeting was held in the NSA Operations Building from 1025 to 1120.



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3. Discussion took place relative to General Carter's decision to limit COINS outstations to the NSA Operations Building and the implications 25X1 of a "computer-to-computer system." [] brought up the possibility of interfacing a DIA IBM-1410 remote access computer system into COINS "PILOT." Such a lash-up of unlike equipment (i.e., IBM/character computer to UNIVAC/fixed-word-length computer) constitutes an alternate and much more complicated approach to COINS "PILOT" than had been previously anticipated. Considerable discussion followed.

25X1 4. [] mentioned that CIA had been ready to choose their file but the decision to limit outstations to the NSA Operations Building would make it necessary to have another look into the matter.

25X1 5. [] requested that members give additional thought to the possibility of an alternate approach to COINS "PILOT" (i.e., the interfacing of unlike equipments) and be prepared to nominate specific files for COINS "PILOT" at the next meeting.

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Chairman COINS Committee

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28 October 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 20 October 1965

1. The COINS meeting was held at NSA 20 October 1965 from 1015 to 1150.

2. The following individuals were present:

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25X1 3. [redacted] said that CIA has not yet made a final decision regarding their file to be included in COINS "PILOT."

25X1 4. [redacted] asked whether DIA would be able to query the "NPIC" file in COINS "PILOT." [redacted] stated that he thought DIA would be able to query the file through their outstation. [redacted] did not have the file format for the DIA file yet, but estimated it would consist of approximately 15,000 records.

25X1

5. Mr. Pruden stated that STATE would not participate in COINS "PILOT" and would probably not participate directly in the COINS project for the next two or three years. STATE is just getting underway in remote access operations. There is concern over the possibility of individuals outside STATE being able to query their VISA and PASSPORT files, and this might set back their whole program.

6. A discussion followed relative to COINS "PILOT" generally. [redacted] and [redacted] stated that the files being offered were not the most appropriate for such a community project. [redacted] pointed out that one of the primary purposes of COINS "PILOT" was to solve the problem of organizational parochialism. He mentioned three levels of

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experience needed: (1) that of the systems work itself, (2) user experience on the part of those sponsoring files (i.e., updating and interrogation) and (3) experience for users not having files in the system.

25X1

7. [redacted] felt that COINS "PILOT" would not work with the CIA and DIA outstations located in the NSA Building. [redacted] thought that perhaps he had over-sold COINS "PILOT" to his people because he did so under the assumption that DIA would have their outstation at Arlington Hall Station. He added that he was certain DIA would never permit all of their files to be centralized in a computer system outside of DIA.

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25X1

8. A discussion followed relative to what is meant by a "computer-to-computer" system. [redacted] mentioned that perhaps this group should meet with the training group. The NSA member on this group is [redacted]

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9. The next meeting will be held 27 October 1965 in the NSA Operations Building.

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[redacted]
Chairman COINS Committee

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25X1	9. A discussion followed regarding programmers had in writing their programs. [redacted] stated programmers would have to program within the limits already established by the TIPS systems.
25X1	10. [redacted] NSA/A7, handed out copies of the proposed formats for the NSA FILES.
25X1	11. [redacted] stated the NSA policy with respect to the location of remote stations.

9. A discussion followed regarding programmers had in writing their programs. [redacted] stated programmers would have to program within the limits already established by the TIPS systems.

10. [redacted] NSA/A7, handed out copies of the proposed formats for the NSA FILES.

11. [redacted] stated the NSA policy with respect to the location of remote stations.

(a) Remote stations tied directly to the NSA computer will not be located at DIA, CIA or STATE.

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(b) However, computer-to-computer operation will be permitted
(e.g., NSA to NPIC or NSA to CIA or ASA to DIA).

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Chairman COINS Committee

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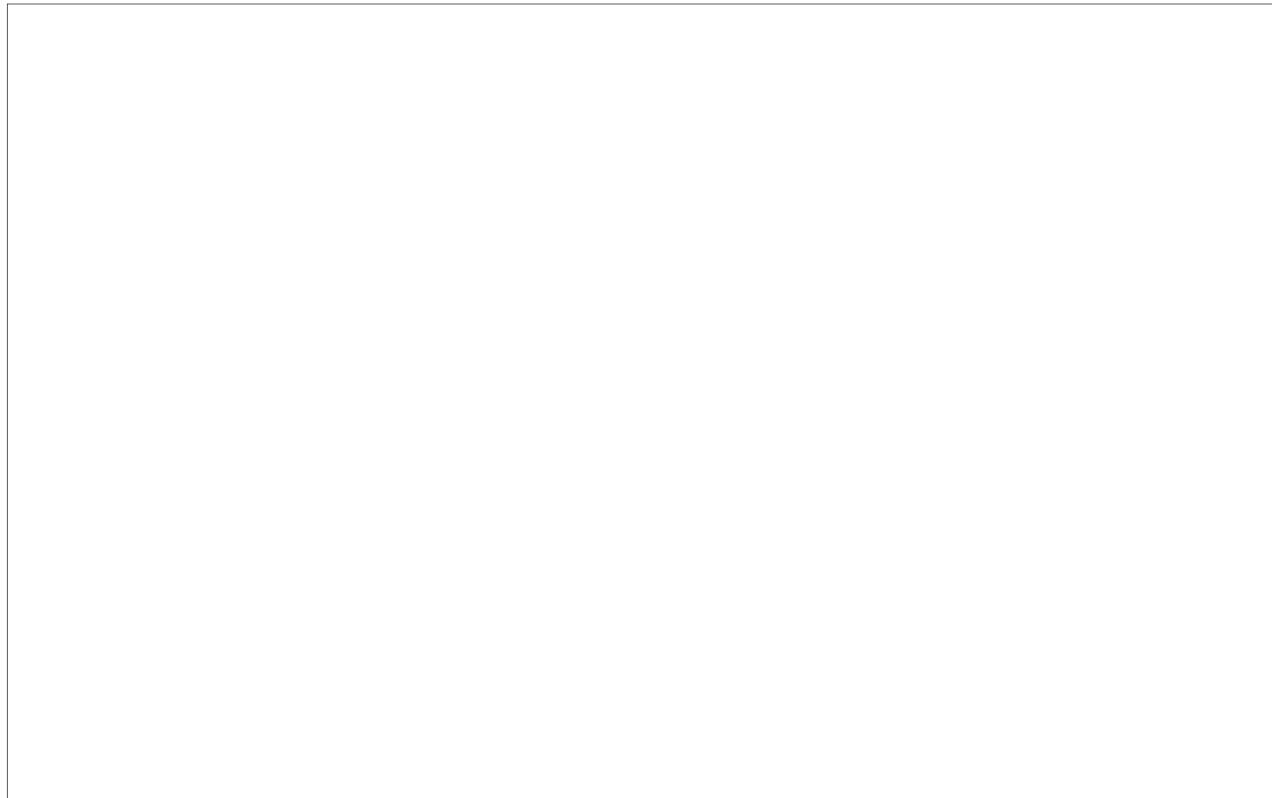
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS)
6 October 1965

1. The meeting of the COINS Committee was held in the NSA Operations Building from approximately 1015 until 1130.
2. The following individuals were present:

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6 OCT 65

3. The minutes of the last meeting were discussed and approved.

25X1

4. [REDACTED] briefly reviewed the COINS concept and approach for the benefit of Mr. E. Harding, STATE [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] briefly discussed the file NSA is putting on COINS "PILOT". This file should be ready for entry into the pilot system during the first quarter CY 66.



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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 29 September 1965

1. The meeting was held at the NSA Operations Building at 1000.
2. The following persons were present:

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[Redacted]

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3. Minutes of the 22 September meeting were reviewed and accepted as amended.

4. The beginning of a draft working paper was distributed for consideration by the Committee.

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5. [Redacted] mentioned that Dr. Ruth Davis is organizing a DOD Committee to investigate physical and information security problems. Further information on this committee is required.

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6. [Redacted] presented a brief talk on files nominated by NSA for COINS "PILOT".

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7. [Redacted] DIA, indicated that DIA has not yet determined which file it will nominate for COINS "PILOT". However, [Redacted] discussed two possible candidates.

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[Redacted]

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8. [REDACTED] CIA, indicated that CIA has not made a final selection of a file for inclusion in COINS "PILOT". Consideration is being given to:

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[REDACTED]

The latter file may be entered in COINS "PILOT" by CIA.

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[REDACTED]

Chairman COINS Committee

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the COINS Committee Meeting 22 September 1965

1. The meeting was held at the NSA Operations Building at 1000 and lasted until 1100.

2. The following persons were present:

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25X1

3. [redacted] suggested the name, INTERCHANGE, as a committee name and as a name for the project. After some discussion, [redacted] suggested Community On-Line Intelligence System ("COINS") and this was adopted.

25X1

4. The reliability of information to be contained in a community set of files was discussed and it was agreed that files should not be limited to finished intelligence and that a reliability indicator should be used to indicate the reliability status of each unit of information.

5. A brief discussion followed relating to a COINS "PILOT" using the currently existing TIPS at NSA. The objective of this system is to gain realistic experience on problems associated with establishing, using and maintaining remote access computer systems within an intelligence community.

6. Preferably, the COINS "PILOT" will include at least one file from each Agency. These files should be of general community interest and must adhere to existing TIPS conventions. The maximum length of TIPS records is 320 characters, and the number of records per file ranges from 3000 to 80,000 records.

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9. [redacted] was not in a position to nominate a file, but will try and do so at the next meeting.

10. It is understood that agencies participating will write interrogations and file maintenance programs. It is preferable that personnel directly connected with the file do the programming. Programmers should attend the NSA/UNIVAC 490 (RYE) classes which are given at NSA for eight hours per day for four weeks. In addition, they should plan to spend four to six weeks at NSA working with the TIPS systems programmers.

11. Arrangements have been made for [redacted] of DIA to join the current class. Agencies wishing to send personnel to this course should write a letter to NSA requesting space. The next class will begin on 8 November 1965.

12. The next meeting will be held at NSA on 29 September at 1000 and is expected to last two hours.

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[redacted]
Chairman COINS Committee

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23 September 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS),
15 September 1965

1. The first meeting of the COINS Committee was held at the NSA Operations Building at 0930 and lasted until 1030.
2. The following persons were present:

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A large rectangular box with a black border, occupying most of the page below the list of present persons. It is used to redact the names of the individuals who attended the meeting.

3. Discussions at this first meeting were broad in nature and covered the following points:

a. The ultimate goal of the Committee should be the preparation of guidelines for an "intelligence network" of self-scheduling remote-access computer systems communicating with one another via secure communications lines rather than a single computer system involving a set of centralized information files.

b. An "intelligence network" would enable each agency to share the information files of other agencies in the intelligence community and still maintain their own files within their own remote access system.

c. An "intelligence network" would be a long-range objective of the Committee, but some of the many managerial problems involved in the remote interrogation of shared information files could be faced in the near future by using the TIPS PILOT system at NSA to interrogate a small sub-set of intelligence files of community interest. In this way, many of the basic problems could be solved by the time the agencies are in a position to set up an "intelligence network".

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4. [redacted] asked Committee members to obtain guidance from their respective agencies and be prepared at the next meeting to help draft long and short term objectives of the Committee and submit information files as candidates for inclusion in a Pilot TIPS installation.

5. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at NSA at 1000 on 22 September 1965. [redacted]

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Chairman COINS Committee

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Downgraded at 12 year
intervals; not
automatically declassified

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