

SECRET

104

USIB-D-39. 7/26
5 February 1968

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Proposal for the Establishment of a Management
Structure for the Community On-Line Intelligence
System (COINS)

REFERENCE : USIB-D-39. 7/11, 24 September 1965*

1. The enclosed memorandum from Mr. John A. Bross, Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence Programs Evaluation (D/DCI/NIPE) and its attachment, prepared at the direction of the Chairman of USIB, are circulated for Board consideration of the recommendations in paragraph 3 of Mr. Bross' memorandum.

2. It is planned to schedule the enclosure for Board discussion and consideration on the agenda of an early USIB meeting, probably that of 15 February.



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Executive Secretary

Enclosures

For Board action see USIB-D-39.1/9, 11 April 1968.

*The two White House letters shown as References A. and B. in the enclosed D/DCI/NIPE memorandum were circulated as Tabs C. and B. respectively of USIB-D-39. 7/11.

SECRET

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Enclosure
USIB-D-39.7/26

1 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Proposal for the Establishment of a Management Structure for the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS)

REFERENCES: A. White House Letter, dtd 15 June 1965,
Memorandum for the President,
Subject: U. S. Intelligence Community
Capabilities for the Handling of Intelligence Information (S)

B. White House Letter, dtd 15 July 1965,
Memorandum for the Director, Central
Intelligence Agency, Subject: U. S.
Intelligence Community Capabilities for
the Handling of Intelligence Information
(S)

1. In accordance with the White House letters, referenced above, a secure network connecting several computer information systems is being established for operational test and evaluation. CIA, NSA, DIA, State and NPIC are currently involved. The title being used for this experimental project is Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS). Using COINS, each participating agency will be able to interrogate selected files of the other participating agencies as well as its own files. This concept calls for each agency to maintain files in its own computer system and for the computer systems of each agency to communicate with those of other agencies via secure data links. The proposed requirement for one agency to serve as the central file repository for the entire intelligence community would be removed. Instead, each agency would concentrate in establishing and maintaining those files for which it is responsible or best equipped. Improvement of interchange of information between intelligence agencies is the principal objective of this system.

2. This memorandum, with attachments, recommends a USIB policy governing the management during the development and evaluation phase of COINS. It identifies and delineates the functions of the

SECRET

SECRET

Enclosure

USIB-D-39. 7/26

System Executive Agency and the COINS Managers in each participating organization. It further defines actions expected of participating organizations to realize optimum test and evaluation of this experimental informational handling system.

3. It is recommended that USIB:

a. Approve the management system for COINS as set forth in the attachment hereto and direct its implementation;

b. Designate the National Security Agency (NSA) as the Executive Agency.



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JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE

Attachment

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Next 7 Page(s) In Document Denied