

COINS SITUATION PAPER NO. 4

Nov 67

SUBJECT: Education of Users in COINS I (Experiment)

1. CURRENT SITUATION

a. Each major participating agency (i.e., an agency having files and a computer system in the COINS I network) must develop a training course for users in their own agency as well as for users in other participating agencies. For example:

(1) DIA must train their own users as well as those in NSA, CIA, STATE, NPIC and NIC and

(2) NSA must train their own users as well as those in DIA, CIA, STATE, NPIC and NIC.

b. In November 1967, DIA and NSA are going to exchange their first user oriented training courses which at a minimum will cover the following points:

(1) Detailed description of information contained in each file including such items as (a) format, (b) sources of information, (c) date range of information and (d) security information, etc.

(2) Review of user manuals.

(3) Procedures for retrieving information from these files using either (a) specific "canned" programs or (b) users language.

c. The critiques following this course will be used to develop more informative courses and user manuals in the future.

2. PROBLEMS

a. As indicated above each agency having files and/or a computer system in the COINS I network must develop a user oriented training course not only for its own users but also those of other participating agencies.

b. Multiplicity of user languages means that users must be trained as multi-linguists (i.e., DIA/Query language, NSA/TILE and CIA/TORQUE).

c. Inability to agree on data standards for files in COINS I (Experiments) means that users must learn a variety of codes, acronyms or abbreviations for:

(1) Referencing common fields in different agencies files.

(2) Framing interrogations on common fields in different agencies files.

(3) Interpreting answers received from different agencies files containing common fields.

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

SECRET

3. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES

a. Each Agency establish a group of instructors to travel from agency to agency instructing potential users. This means that users at any one agency (e.g., NSA) be instructed once by their own organization and then three additional times, once by CIA, DIA and NPIC.

b. Let each Agency use its own instructors to train its own users. This means that only the instructors would have to be versed in each system and files.

c. Establish one group of instructions which would travel from Agency to Agency instructing potential users.

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S-E-C-R-E-T

CODIB-M-94
Attachment

STATUS REPORT ON CONTENT CONTROL

This briefing covers action to date in response to paragraph 3 of USIB-D-39.7/20 which calls for each agency participating in the operational test of the Content Control Code to submit plans for initial application or use, including types and quantities of items to which the proposed code will be applied.

CODIB ASSIGNMENT*

To coordinate agency plans for test-applying CCC to insure that a realistic and representative test will be conducted and that overall, interagency considerations will be documented during the operational testing, and evaluate results obtained during the test and recommend appropriate follow-on actions regarding the proposed Content Control Code.

CCC COORDINATORS DESIGNATED

State - Dr. Bruce H. Allen
Army - Lt. Col. H. R. Ross
Navy - Mr. Edward Barker**
Air Force -
FBI - Not participating
AEC - Not participating

* Paragraph 4 of USIB-D-39.7/20
** Administrative purposes

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