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4. Approach

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

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

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

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

b. The tentative schedule calls for these tasks/objectives to be coordinated and approved by mid-June.

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

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5. FY 1969 COINS Experiment Tasks/Objectives

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

- a. Specify the objectives of the COINS experiment.
- b. Provide a detailed, overall schedule for the experiment which specifies tasks, milestones, and reporting schedules.
- c. Provide the planning, programming and budgeting information requested by the DCI.
- d. Specify the primary and secondary files which are included in the COINS experiment, including maintenance schedules and rules for adding and deleting files.
- e. Develop and describe a common training plan and program to be utilized by the participating agencies, including the limited Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) capability developed for the experiment.
- f. Specify the communications network characteristics and operating procedures, e.g., transmission rates, switching characteristics, querying, interrupt, maintenance schedule, etc.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

b. Develop the specifications for a multi-level security system for the COINS network.

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

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

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

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7. FY 1970-71 Operational COINS System Tasks/Objectives

a. Complete and implement planning tasks started in previous phase.

b. Implement an on-line, remote file maintenance system to permit file sponsors to add, delete or modify data as quickly as new information becomes available.

c. Extend the COINS system within the original participating agencies by the addition of more remote terminals to bring in additional components.

d. Plan the extension of the COINS system to additional intelligence components, e.g., ONI, through the installation of remote terminals. Plan the incorporation of additional remote access computer systems into COINS, e.g., ONI's Project Sextant/Compass.

e. Refine and further develop COINS data bases.

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8. FY 1970-71 Planning Tasks/Objectives to be Undertaken
Should COINS be Disproved.

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

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

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