RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT APPROVAL REQUEST

I. Identification

The Plans and Development Staff of the National Photographic Interpretation Center proposes the development of a Film-Editing Table under a fixed-price contract with the [redacted] This item was included in the P&DS, NPIC financial plan for Fiscal Year 1965 under Category VI, "Other Developments". More specifically, this project is comprehended under the subheading "Film-Editing Tables."

II. Objectives

The main purpose of this project is the development of an editing table which is capable of cutting all of the present types of film bases. The table will be a significant improvement over existing equipment since the tables now in use do not have this versatility.

The table would be used in essentially the same way as are the present tables except that it could also be used for editing any type of film base. (Existing designs can only handle base materials which can be "ripped".)

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III. Background

When the existing editing tables were conceived, there was no requirement for cutting the film because all the film bases then in use could be ripped, using a ripping bar technique. Now new film bases which cannot be ripped have come into regular use, and there is a requirement for an editing table provided with a cutter.

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IV. Technical Specifications

The physical configuration of the proposed table would be similar to that of present editing tables with the exception that the ripping bar would now be replaced by the slicing mechanism. The proposed editing table will have the following features:

1. The film cutter is to be the offset, overlapping, ball-bearing roller-type. The cutter is to be set to butt the film ends together rather than overlap them.

2. Vacuum film clamps are to be located at each side of the splice line to secure the film for cutting and splicing. These clamps could be used with any width film from 35mm to 9½".

3. A fixed front fence would provide for accurate alignment of the two pieces of film being spliced.

25X1A 4. Illuminated areas, 11" X 15", are to be located adjacent to the cutting area and are to be equipped with [redacted] "cold" light sources which provide illumination brightness from 200 to 1200 ft. lamberts when fully diffused.

5. Rollers mounted at each end of the table would be ball bearing, aluminum tubing rollers coated with smooth plastic to prevent film scratching. The rollers would be mounted to carry the film about $\frac{1}{4}$" over the glass illuminating surfaces.

All of the remaining features of existing tables have been incorporated into the new design.

It was determined that extensive modifications would be needed to transform the existing tables to have the capabilities listed above.

V. Contract and Financial Arrangements

25X1A This development would be executed under a [redacted] fixed-price contract with [redacted] Delivery is to be scheduled for 12 weeks after actual award of contract. The contractor was selected from a group of eighteen -- seven of whom
25X1A submitted proposals. [redacted] was the lowest bidder.

VI. Coordination

This development was requested by the Technical Intelligence Division, Technical Services Branch, because of its requirement in editing materials with all types of film bases. By virtue of contacts throughout industry and the Intelligence Community, it was concluded that no equivalent device is presently in existence.

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