1 May 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Committee on Imagery
                    Requirements and Exploitation

SUBJECT   :   ADP Support

1.   Initially, when I undertook my present assignment, it was my understanding that I would deal with future problems and not consider activity in current operations. Yet as I go about my work the current ADP problems become more obvious. ICRS has had to live with computer support which, under any circumstances, would be highly unacceptable. Today ICRS has to submit many jobs three and four times before they run successfully. ICRS ADP effort is understaffed and overworked without this additional reprocessing burden being added to their workload. Because of the extent of the current problems, I believe COMIREX should re-evaluate both current and future ADP requirements now. COMIREX has to establish a major automated support effort today so that COMIREX will have an operational support system prior to

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Current Problems

2.   For the last year the main computer support to ICRS has not functioned properly. Recently, a large number of jobs submitted against the ICRS file [   ] have taken two or three days to complete successfully. This requires the ICRS staff to do double and triple work when they are already short handed. At the same time ICRS is having trouble with [   ] the key update program [   ] has not worked properly for over a month. Finally, the ICRS staff is now faced with a [   ] format change instituted by the SOC which will require ICRS to rework many of the programs written by OJCS and ICRS over the past several years.

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NRO review(s) completed.

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3.   Having learned about these three problems ([   ] SOC FORMAT), I have tried to help. the ICRS staff in the following ways. In the case of [   ] I initially checked with the OJCS personnel looking at the problem and was assured it was being worked on. This checking was done some 4 to 5 weeks ago. When, after a number of weeks, the problem was not corrected, I mentioned it directly to the Deputy Director of OJCS. He immediately took action at the OJCS staff meeting the following morning, 26 April 1974. That same day I also mentioned it to [   ] D/OJCS, who assured me the [   ] problem would be corrected quickly. I expect the [   ] problem to clear up shortly.

4.   In the case of the second problem, [   ], I have talked to the Branch Chief, Applications Division, who is responsible for the overall ICRS support. I have his assurance it will be checked. Here we have to wait and see. However, I have called this problem to the Application Division chief's attention too.

5.   The third problem is the SOC format changes. In order to meet the 1 June deadline, ICRS must ask for help from OJCS. I have suggested to [   ] that a priority request be sent to OJCS asking for help. Since the OJCS help must come from the same branch tasked with the [   ] problem, ICRS may have a difficult time getting adequate assistance. I raised this item with the Chief, Applications Division, OJCS, at the same time I talked to him about the [   ] problem.

6.   All of the above problems result in only one conclusion: COMIREX has some current ADP problems as well as future ADP planning to address immediately. I believe the same basic type of problems may exist in EXSUBCOM, but I have had very little dealings with them directly. As a result, I cannot be sure EXSUBCOM has problems at this time.

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Future Problems

7.   Originally, I had hoped to get OJCS to support our long-range planning effort since it seems likely any computer systems dedicated to COMIREX will be handled in headquarters. Up until this time the support offered has been either personnel lacking the indepth background to insure the desired goals or a senior analyst who will become available in 4 to 6 weeks from now. I have agreed to the use of the senior analyst as the best course of action for now. At the same time, I feel this may be too little support to do the overall COMIREX job.

8.   Therefore, I would suggest COMIREX do the following:

        a.   Go to the OJCS management and say, point blank, COMIREX feels the situation is critical enough to require two or three senior people to plan, design, and implement a COMIREX system by ▢   25X1

        b.   We suggest the group be headed by a knowledgeable senior computer specialist.

        c.   If OJCS balks at items 8a and 8b, we should go contract for additional manpower support, using OJCS's inability to insure our satisfactory support as justification.

9.   If COMIREX fails to do something drastic at this time, I feel confident to predict COMIREX will come under extensive pressure over the next 18 months to allow DIA to manage ▢   25X1D
ADP support for ICRS, EXSUBCOM, and the community.

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