Executive Registry

9 April 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Knoche

THROUGH : Mr. Taylor ᴬᵀ 12 APR 1977

STAT FROM : [   ] Chairman IHC

SUBJECT : Overview of SAFE-ADISS Commonality

     1. On Monday, 4 April you had Jim Taylor and me meet with you, and we had a general discussion of SAFE and ADISS and how to go about achieving appropriate commonality. At the conclusion of that meeting, you asked me to give you a think-piece policy paper by the end of the week.

     2. On Thursday, 7 April the IC Staff front office requested me to prepare a point paper for Admiral Turner's use that same day in a meeting with Secretary of Defense Brown. I was given two hours to accomplish this.

     3. Attached is the paper I sent to the D/DCI/IC, and I understand the paper went forward to Admiral Turner. Also attached is the paper prepared by DIA and sent to Secretary Brown prior to his meeting with the DCI. My paper makes the points that I would make in response to your request.

     4. I am sending this to Jim Taylor, with the request that he bring it to your attention as appropriate.

STAT

Atts (2)
   Chm IHC memo, DCI/IC 77-1712, dtd 7 Apr 77, "Overview of SAFE-ADISS Commonality Issue"
   DIA paper, dtd 7 Apr 77, "Coordination of the DIA ADISS and CIA SAFE Computer Projects"

Chairman IHC memo to Mr. Knoche, dtd 9 Apr 77, subject: Overview
of SAFE-ADISS Commonality

Distribution:
Orig - Mr. Knoche, via Mr. Taylor (Comptroller)   1 - Mr. Taylor
   1 - Mr. McMahon, AD/DCI/IC (FYI)
   1 - IHC Subject (SAFE-ADISS)
   1 - IHC Chrono

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DCI/IC/IHC/[   ] (9 Apr 77)

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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence Information Handling Committee

DCI/IC 77-1712
7 April 1977

SUBJECT: Overview of SAFE-ADISS Commonality Issue

1.   What are SAFE and ADISS?

a.   SAFE is a large-scale system being planned to serve principally the CIA analyst population and possibly INR/State. Important planned characteristics include the capability for analysts to interactively receive and send mail, set up local files, draw on agency central files, and manipulate data for analytic purposes. A limited, interim SAFE system is now operating.

b.   ADISS is a conceptual system planned to upgrade the existing, 13-year-old DIA On-Line System (DIAOLS) which is now overloaded and becoming obsolescent. ADISS now exists only as a concept for a total information system environment to serve DIA locally and Service analysts worldwide. DIA is now negotiating a contract for a system definition study.

c.   Comparison:

SAFE	ADISS
Centralized analyst users at CIA Hdqtrs	Worldwide analyst users in DIA, Services, Commands
Requires local communications	Requires worldwide communications
To handle diverse analyst problems involving non-formatted data	To handle fact-oriented problems, (e.g., force location, movements) which lend themselves to greater formatting in data bases

2. <u>Could one system serve the entire Community?</u> The answer is "No" for the following reasons:

   a. Analyst types range greatly, from those supporting field commanders worldwide and using existing tactical ADP systems, to analysts supporting Washington customers at the national level.

   b. A single system that attempts to embrace and harmonize the tactical and national spectrum will be too complex to design and maintain efficiently; it could be unreliable in operation because of its complexity and vulnerability points; it would be complex to use; and it would be extremely costly to build.

3. <u>A prudent course of action</u> is as follows:

   a. Assume for immediate planning that more than one system will be required. Order maximum practicable commonality in system design. Identify and prescribe common principles to apply in use of technology. (Use the IR&D Council for this.) Establish central control over the critical points of requirements study, system design, contracting, and testing. (Use the IR&D Council, IC Staff, and DCI Committees as focal points, with regular reporting to PRC(I).)

   b. <u>Verify the foregoing assumption now.</u> Do this by taking immediate action to bring in an independent outside expert to make a prompt overall assessment of SAFE, ADISS, and other systems, and to give his evaluation directly to the DCI, Secretary of Defense, and the PRC(I). The main question to be answered in the next three months or so is: Should present SAFE/ADISS activities be delayed, even at risk of losing FY-77 funds, in order to assure that the Community is moving together in a sensible, coordinated manner? The Community is not now together effectively.

   c. <u>Mobilize Community policy makers now</u> to establish new Community principles or topics that ADP systems designers must have as "givens" in order to design any system. These include:

      (1) <u>Decompartmentation</u> policy.

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(2) Standardization of data in organized files, and procedures for better access to data. Standards for communications in interfaces.

(3) Principles for use of technology (e.g., maximize use of commercial hardware and software; build small systems first, and use test beds to gain experience before commiting to total large system(s).

d. Do not limit this problem to an analysis merely of SAFE and ADISS. There is important experience on capabilities at NSA now in existence or being designed which should be considered in any total Community effort to assess capabilities. The Analyst Terminal Systems Working Group (ATSWG) of the IR&D Council is now charged to examine all such capabilities. Their investigation should be speeded up. No decision on SAFE or ADISS as a community-wide vehicle should be made until the NSA experience is compared and evaluated, and until the IR&D Council has reported to the DCI.

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Chairman IHC

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COORDINATION OF THE DIA ADISS AND CIA SAFE COMPUTER PROJECTS

BACKGROUND: Since 1972 and 1974 respectively, both DIA and CIA have been planning major ADP modernization efforts in support of intelligence and production analysts. DIA's System - Advanced Defense Intelligence Support System (ADISS) is to be an automated system with a structured data base that provides analytical support to production analysts DoD-wide and provides a capability to disseminate finished intelligence to users, i.e., SecDef, JCS, U&S Commands, etc. CIA's effort - Support for the Analyst File Environment (SAFE) is an internally oriented system designed to support the CIA intelligence production analysts.

The FY 1977 Appropriations Conference Report directed the CIA and DIA to develop comparable computer systems for analysts with the maximum possible commonality. This joint development program should facilitate the maximum interchange of intelligence information between the two agencies and should minimize development and procurement costs.

COMPARISON OF THE TWO SYSTEMS: Both systems have some commonality in terms of message processing and text search capability. However there are some significant differences:

o   DATA BASE CONTENT:

   -- ADISS data base will primarily consist of finished intelligence
      arranged in a predetermined format and some raw, unevaluated
      intelligence (message and hardcopy). The structured file
      requirement, predominate in ADISS, is dictated by the size and
      dispersion of the system and the varying level of detail
      required to support the military commanders (order of battle,
      target data, installation intelligence, etc.)

   -- SAFE data base, primarily unstructured, is comprised of messages
      and internally composed documents in their original form with
      limited development of finished intelligence.

c   USER FUNCTIONS:

   -- ADISS concentrates on the development of a data management
      system allowing for maximum manipulation of formatted data.

   -- SAFE emphasizes automated message processing, input document
      processing and rapid file maintenance, retrieval and output.

o   USER CONSTITUENCY:

   - ADISS serves DoD and non-DoD managers, analysts and users
     worldwide. ADISS must interface with such developmental systems
     as the National Military Intelligence Center (NMIC), the Advanced
     Imagery Requirements and Exploitation System (AIRES) and the
     Collection Coordination Facility (CCF).

   - SAFE will support intelligence analysts in the Washington
     metropolitan area. Most of these users will be located in the
     CIA Headquarters Building.

o   TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

   - ADISS worldwide environment dictates the use of the lower speed,
     long haul telecommunication facilities of the Defense Communication
     System.

   - SAFE local environment allows the use of extremely high speed
     circuits to support the high data rates and large numbers of
     simultaneous users.

o   SUMMARY:

   - Each system responds to differing product requirements and
     user populations. The extent of the similarities and differences
     will be determined when the requirements for each system are
     translated into design alternatives in FY 1978. Both agencies
     are committed to making their systems interoperable and achieving
     maximum commonality, thereby providing capabilities not heretofore
     available.

STATUS OF ACTIONS

o   DIA and CIA established coordination at two levels in October/
       November 1976

   - Policy level - Vice Admiral Inman, DIA and Mr. Paul Walsh, CIA,
     designated principal contacts

   - Working level - groups established in both DIA and CIA

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o   Results of working group meetings since December 1976

    - Initial technical comparisons completed

    - ADISS/SAFE Coordination Management Plan developed

    - Arrangements finalized for ADISS and SAFE system definition
      studies

ADISS COSTS AND MILESTONES

25X1   o   FY 1977 - [   ] for initial system definition effort

25X1   FY 1978 - [   ] for completion of system definition and
initiation of joint design/development efforts

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Executive Registry

77-9782

12 apr 77

Deputy Director of

Central Intelligence

XR77-7206
attached

Hank:

Although I believe this is over-
taken by events (your decision that
Sayre Stevens will talk directly with
Sam Wilson), it is nevertheless a
useful paper and worth reading.

/s/

James H. Taylor, Comptroller **1 2 APR 1977**

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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
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Remarks:

Jim:

This responds to Hank Knoche's request at our meeting with him on Monday 4 April, for a think-piece on policy re SAFE/ADISS.

Because of Admiral Turner's personal interest in this subject in the past few days, Hank's request may have been overtaken by events.

Will you be so kind as to be the recipient of my response, and as appropriate let Hank know about it. Thank you.

	TO RETURN TO SENDER	
	AND PHONE NO.	DATE
	Chm IHC	9 Apr 77

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