5 June 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director-Comptroller

SUBJECT: *[handwritten]*

    1. You will remember that my organizational survey of the
Agency recommended that OCS be removed from DDS&T and established
under joint direction with the Office of Communications. This recom-
mendation was occasioned by what seemed to me the growing inter-
relationship between communications and information handling techniques,
procedures and facilities; also because the efficient transmission,
storage and retrieval of data seems increasingly to be a problem which
permeates all echelons and sectors of the Agency. It seemed to me
that it would follow that we should move towards greater centralization
of control in this area (certainly not a new idea). I suggested the con-
solidation of this responsibility in the DDS, without too much enthusiasm,
but as the best of available options.

    2. After digesting various comments on my report, I am less
enthusiastic even than before about the proposal to consolidate this
responsibility in the DDS. On the other hand, I am more convinced
than ever that somewhat greater centralization of authority than now
exists in OCS is needed to improve the over-all management of infor-
mation handling activity, promote the career development of personnel
engaged in this effort, establish controls over the design and procurement
of equipment and systems, provide assistance in programming and
systems development and consolidate the various studies and reviews
which are proliferating on this subject. I should perhaps say that I do
not favor consolidation of all ADP or computer installations and believe
that appropriate centers should continue to exist on a dedicated basis
in various components.

    3. The annexed draft memorandum to the DCI is an attempt
to summarize the existing situations which, it seems to me, call for
redress. If this memorandum accurately reflects the existing situation,
there appear to be three practical alternative courses of action:

a. Do nothing and hope that the situation will clarify and improve as individuals become increasingly educated and cooperative and adapt various existing facilities and know-how to common needs and objectives.

b. On a command basis establish a greater degree of centralized control at least for guidance purposes over ADP activities in the Agency. This could be done by the creation of a staff element reporting directly to you (but with considerably less responsibility for the day-to-day operation of ADP centers than was part of the similar proposal by ☐); 25X1A by changing the character of the PPB function in this respect; by extending the authority and terms of reference of OCS without detaching it from the DDS&T; or by the establishment of a new directorate responsible for both communications and information handling.

c. Appoint a strong representative committee to be chaired by some disinterested individual (conceivably ☐ 25X1A ☐) with a mandate to submit recommendations within 30 days.

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JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE

Attachment

5 June 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: CIA Organization for Information Handling

1. As we look forward to a new generation of more highly productive collection devices and to an increasing availability of information, it would be prudent to review those segments of the Agency most directly concerned with the management of this increasingly large and complex information handling problem. Many organizationally separate but functionally interrelated offices have a responsibility for managing parts of an information flow which will come simultaneously from several different sources, and which is important and time sensitive to varying degrees.

2. The Office of Planning, Programming and Budgeting (OPPB), under the Executive Director-Comptroller, has within it a small section responsible for the preparation of that part of the CIA Budget and Financial Plan concerned with Information Processing and Exploitation. The head of this section also acts as the Information Processing Coordinator and is Chairman of the Agency Information Processing Committee. This PPB element is able to maintain a good general overview of the Agency ADP activities and to advise on requirements and resource allocations. OPPB does not attempt to make final technical judgments on ADP equipment or to carry out specific ADP management responsibilities. Beyond those factors, such as budget, which concern the Agency as a whole, the management of ADP resources generally is accomplished by the Deputy Directors.

3. The Office of Communications (OC), within the DD/S, has the function of satisfying those Agency responsibilities concerned with the transmission of data between points outside of the immediate environment of the Agency ADP equipment. This includes the movement of data between the collector and the processing unit as well as the movement of data between the computers and their associated external console equipment. Although this function is of the greatest importance to the success of any present or future ADP system, OC

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is organizationally separate from those elements of the Agency directly concerned with the design, procurement, installation and operation of ADP systems.

4. The Office of Computer Services (OCS) is assigned to the DD/S&T and is designated as an Agency office of common service but with no jurisdiction over ADP centers, personnel or equipment except for that which is assigned specifically to it. OCS provides a great deal of computer support to all Directorates on a work order basis, including computational scientific support and overhead reconnaissance mission planning support to DD/S&T, but the major ADP centers in DD/I, DD/P and NPIC, and other smaller dedicated computer installations, are organizationally separated from OCS which has no responsibility for their design, procurement, management, manning or operation.

5. Some studies are under way within the Agency and within certain committees and subcommittees of USIB which will have an effect on Agency consideration of management of information handling. Beginning on July 1st, the ASPIN Project, under the DD/I, will undertake a study in depth of the ADP support requirements of the intelligence production elements of the Agency. Also, the impact that the recently proposed Electro-Optical Imaging (E-OI) System will have on CIA is now under study by a group under [   ].   25X1A Decisions which are to be made at NRO concerning the development of the E-OI will eventually have to be accommodated by CIA management. In addition, SIGINT/SORS and SIGINT/IGS are both completing studies in their areas of immediate concern which will point up new information handling management requirements.

6. All of the above indicates that we may want to take a hard look at the total Agency ADP picture to determine if we should not at this time, rather than at some later time, readjust our organizational arrangements to better handle the information management problems with which we are being confronted.

/s/ John A. Bross.

JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE

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