

original language and then translated, along with an abstract, into either English or French depending on the linguistic facility of the person doing the translating. ?

(5) A number of questions regarding "levels" of material for inclusion in the data base must also be raised. Within Canada, for example, should any (and all) items written by Canadian "academics" or "commentators" on international relations or foreign policy be included even if they do not otherwise fall within the subject parameters of the data base? This very broad degree of coverage might be useful to some sections of the Department (e.g. Academic Relations, Information and Historical Divisions, the Policy Analysis Group) but could over time mean some extension of the coverage of the file. Similarly, in the case of material from the posts abroad, should posts be asked to attempt to gather all material related directly to the subject coverage of the data base wherever possible or should it be looked at in a much more restricted way?

All of the above parameters need to be clearly spelled out in order to develop a workable program for implementing and operating an information system. Failure to do so will result in considerable confusion for those involved in providing input to the data base as well as frustration and disappointment for those who attempt to access the system to meet their information needs.