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July 1941

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PIEMORANDUM CECETA

SUBJECT:

Problems Relating to Field Studies .

TO: Dr. T. W. Harrell

11 23 Jul 41

MAR 4 1980

Points of Consideration:

- 1. Adoption of a uniform plan of reporting field studies.
- 2. Relation of available data to suggested field studies.
- 3. Reliability of field studies
 - a. reliability of primary data used
 - b. care and thoroughness to be expected in field studies
 - c. supply of trained personnel
- 4. Value of information obtained from field studies
 - a. possibility of securing pertinent data
 - replacement centers are better source of validating criteria of classification methods and of test batteries.
 - (2) reception centers restricted more to population or test characteristics or to relationships found among personal information items.
 - b. use of information from field studies as
 - (1) evidence of test validity
 - (2) evidence of classification efficiency
 - (3) sources of new classification criteria
 - (4) indicating characteristics of Army population

Suggestions for field studies

- That some uniform form of reporting studies be adopted. (One form is included. It is offered only as an example of what could be used as a starter)
- 2. That the following studies could be done at reception centers. (Little or no information on these problems is available in the T.D.A. unit, the primary data would be reasonably reliable, and no highly trained personnel would be required) Determine:
 - a. distribution of G.C.T. scores by civilian occupation
 - (1) by occupation as whole
 - (2) by skilled or semi-skilled within each occupation.
 - distribution of trade test scores by skilled and semiskilled members of civilian occupations
 - distribution of G.C.T. scores by major subject in high school or college populations
 - d. distribution of educational attainment by occupation
 - type of test item missed by high and by low ranking selectees.

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- f. ration of items passed to items attempted
- g. relationship between leadership ratings and educational attainment and/or occupational skill.
- 3. That the following studies could be done at replacement centers:
 (Validation studies are of primary importance, yet too few are available in the T.D.A. unit. Test scores are considered reliable, but the best of ratings are not very reliable. Some trained personnel would be required for worthwhile studies). Determine:
 - a. relationship between Army grade and
 - (1) rating by squad leaders on learning ability
 - (2) rating as military specialist
 - (3) course grades in Army schools
 - b. check lists of basic training items
 - c. check lists of specialized training items (b and c to serve as validating criteria of G.C.T. tests and of aptitude tests)
 - d. relationship between successful and unsuccessful classifications and various classification criteria used by reception centers.
 - e. relation between preliminary leadership rating and "in service" rating.

Suggestions for Studies at Reception Centers

Sample outline of typical study to increase uniformity of reports for field

Outline for Statistical Studies

- 1. Problem statement of purpose of study
- 2. Population total number of cases description of group e.g.,
 927 selectees entering Reception Center between June 12 July 2, 1941. Additional breakdowns of data to be indicated
 with number of cases and criterion for breakdown of each
 sub-group.
- 3. Variables name and form of tests, definitions of any other measures used.
- 4. Procedures and Results summary tables. Accurate and concise description of procedure followed in investigating problem. Source of information e.g. test scores, qualification card, for each table. Indicate sample used for each table as in "Population" above. Where breakdowns are made it is well to include summary tables for total group to aid in comparisons of sub-groups and total.
- Conclusions Brief statements of findings of study, with possible implications.
 Suggestions, criticisms, etc. for Personnel Procedures.
- Note: Where original data (copies thereof) are available, please include or indicate where such data may be obtained. Often data from several centers can be combined to get larger groupings if the original (ungrouped) data is available.
- Date of each study is also valuable information for the Personnel Procedures in making comparisons of selectees over a given period of time.