Development of Databases from Defense Manpower Data Center Files: Report Summarizing Development of Database Activities

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13. ABSTRACT *(Maximum 200 words)*

BDM supported the collection and maintenance of data from various sources. Montgomery GI Bill Files were obtained and the needed REXX programs written to accomplish effective storage and retrieval of the data. Operation Transition files, to include Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS) and Transition Bulletin Board (TBB) data were obtained and assistance provided to user and data souce communities to assure a steady and reliable flow of data. Data were collected from the Services using file transfers through the TBB for both DORS and TBB data. MGIB files were received and the USNPS and transferred to DMDC for storage and maintenance. Persian Gulf Mystery Illness data were collected from individual Service members and their families.

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1. Work performed:

Subtask 1:

<u>Objective.</u>

The objective of task one was to create a plan of work for the successful execution of the remaining tasks. Each subtask has specific objectives and identification of the data needed to execute these tasks is the key to planning.

<u>Accomplishments.</u>

Each subtask leader identified the critical data elements, data collection methods, data storage methods and data retrieval and reporting requirements in order to successfully accomplish planning for task execution. Plans are discussed as needed with the appropriate DMDC division chief as a part of normal on-going staff meetings and guidance was provided as needed.

Subtask 2:

<u>Objective</u>.

BDM is providing data collection and maintenance support of the DMDC MGIB files, Operation Transition Files, PGVH files, and the DMDC SITES files. This support includes collection of data from the Services, modification of data as needed to meet database requirements, and the redistribution of data in new formats as required.

<u>Accomplishments.</u>

During the task period, BDM supported the collection and maintenance of data from various sources. Montgomery GI Bill files were obtained and the needed REXX programs written to accomplish effective storage and retrieval of the data. Operation Transition files, to include Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS) and Transition Bulletin Board (TBB) data were obtained and assistance provided to user and data source communities to assure a steady and reliable flow of data. Data was collected from the Services using file transfers through the TBB for both DORS and TBB data. This data consisted of resumes which numbered in the tens of thousands and want ads which exceeded ten thousand in total during the period. MGIB files were received and the USNPS and transferred to DMDC for storage and maintenance. Persian Gulf Mystery Illness data was collected from individual Service members and their families. The data included medical registry related data and toxic incident data.

1

Subtask 3:

Objective.

BDM receives data from a variety of sources for DMDC. The data must be analyzed for quality assurance purposes and input into the appropriate databases.

Accomplishments.

All incoming data was reviewed for quality and conformity. Data received by file transfer from a variety of sources within each of the Services and DoD agencies. Data received was reviewed for quality purposes to ensure completeness and conformity with DMDC's corporate standards for each data type. BDM staff members reviewed data for quality reasons, rejected or replaced defective data elements, and ensured that all data was placed as needed within the DMDC environment.

Subtask 4:

Objective.

Support will be provided for the continued operation of the Transition Bulletin Board, the Persian Gulf Hotline network, the personnel security files, and the SITES technical interchange.

Accomplishments.

BDM provided technical support to the Transition Bulletin Board to ensure that it continued to meets its overall objectives. Specific TBB-related accomplishments involved changes to the source code to achieve new functional capabilities, daily support to users and help desk staff to ensure each user has effective access to the TBB, and help desk support as needed. The Persian Gulf Hotline support included collection and maintenance of data from stand alone computers using automated means. Daily data harvesting was accomplished and the data was reviewed, analyzed, and reports were generated. Personnel security files were accessed and data from within those files were used to perform searches and analyses. SITES data was removed from the TBB and moved into the SITES data files. The data was collected using the same methods as the TBB data and staff support to TBB includes support to SITES.

Subtask 5:

<u>Objective</u>.

The objective of this subtask was to design and develop media for fielding SITES data.

<u>Accomplishments</u>.

BDM developed and delivered the SITES version 2.0 CD. This CD is a significant product improvement over the previous version. BDM assisted DMDC in developing and mastering the new version to include development of associated computer based training and documentation.