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Quarterly Research and Development
Status Report.

1 Aug - 31 Oct 78;

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LEVEL II

ARPA Order Number

3571

Contract Number

15

MDA903-78-C-0297, "ARPA Order-3571"

Name of Contractor

New Computer Corporation of America
Arlington, Va.

Principal Investigator

10

J. Allen 703-522-1717

Effective Date of Contract

1 June 1978

Short Title of Work

6

Design and Specification
of a Combat Readiness
Evaluation System.

12 6 p.

Contract Expiration Date

31 May 1979

11 31 Oct 78

Contract Period Covered

August 1, 1978 - October 31, 1978

This research was sponsored by the Defense
Advanced Research Projects Agency under
ARPA Order No.: 3571

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STATUS

1. During early August, the contracting officer's technical representative Major Catalogne requested that Computer Corporation of America conduct a one week seminar to train representatives from five selected locations as to the use of the MCCRESSA system. This seminar was also to be used to acquaint these people with the overall MCCRESSA concept. Approximately 14 attendees took part in the seminar and were trained in the use of the current prototype system which is operational on IBM 5110 microprocessors. During the seminar each member was given the opportunity for hands on utilization of the system. This experience proved quite helpful in familiarizing the participants in the basic concept of the MCCRESSA system.

2. Due to the overwhelming success of the MCCRESSA system throughout the Marine Corps as a means of measuring the combat readiness of units associated with combat readiness exercises, it became apparent that intermediate action must be taken to handle the increased computational workload associated with these formal evaluations. Since the current MCCRESSA prototype system was available from previous work and some additional evaluation of the prototype was needed in preparation for the final operational system, it was decided that

if funds could be allocated, the appropriate equipment should be installed at the five key exercise locations so that the prototype MCCRESSA software could be used during the interim. This was accomplished by installing five IBM 5110 microprocessors with associated peripheral equipment at each of the selected sites. This equipment was installed and is in an operational position at the present.

3. In coordination with the equipment that was installed, it was necessary to take the prototype software and modify it so that it would be in more of an operational mode and more readily usable by untrained personnel. This modification was made and the associated software was distributed to each of the five sites that were equipped with the IBM 5110's. The software that was distributed included the basic MCCRESSA program as well as data files for the associated volumes that are included in the MCCRESSA documentation.
4. As the MCCRESSA software was utilized in this prototype format, several deficiencies became obvious and were reported by Computer Corporation of America. This was one of the main reasons for installing the prototype software in the field so we feel that we received some success in getting this feedback information and utilizing it to make modifications to the software. These

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updates are being coordinated and redistributed to the participating sites and additional information is being forwarded to Computer Corporation of America and continued refinement of the MCCRESSA system is undergoing while the operational system is being finalized.

5. With the aid of the User Requirement's document that was published during the first quarter of this activity and the results of field exercises, the inputs from the users on the field and the reports back on utilization of the prototypes system, system specifications have been written for the operational system. These system specifications have been divided into two categories; one is for a totally batched system, the other is for an interactive system. This activity is ongoing and will not be completed until early calendar 1979.
6. In conjunction with the aforementioned tasks, much effort has been expended on coordinating activities with the Marine Corps. In particular, all activities have been coordinated with the MCCRESSA office through our contracting officer's technical representative as well as to headquarter's Center for Data Processing activity and our representative there. Additional contacts have been maintained with MCDSA at Quantico to insure that the finished product will be compatible with the distributed system processor that MCDSA is in

the process of procuring. Also to insure flexibility of the finished product, continued efforts have been undertaken to coordinate with the TWSEAS activity, in particular with the activity at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and to a lesser degree with the TWSEAS group at Quantico.

7. It has become obvious due to the time constraint of installing the source data automation devices which will be procured by the MCCRESSA group, that final testing of the MCCRESSA system will not be possible until midsummer of 1979. It will not be before that time that the selected hardware will be announced and available for evaluation. It is recommended and has been formally requested that an extension (of no cost to the government) be granted so that Computer Corporation of America can conduct the previous committed testing utilizing the selected equipment rather than a hypothetical test case.

Fiscal Status

Amount of Contract (including fee)

Amount obligated \$105,252

Amount funded 105,252

Difference -0-

Expenditures through October 31, 1978 \$102,646

Estimated funds required to complete work \$ 2,606

Current contract expiration date May 31, 1979

Estimated date of project completion March 31, 1979

Actions Required by ARPA or the Contracting Officer

None