NSA SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

PANEL ON DIGITAL NETWORK INTELLIGENCE (DNI)

(Née "C2C")

Report to Director

Lt Gen Jim Clapper USAF(RET)

Panel Members

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

28 June 1999

OVERALL BRIEFING CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET//COMINT//X1~~

Released by NSA on 17-May-2004
pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act
Case #: 41178

... Subtitled...

OVERALL CLASSIFICATION OF THE BRIEFING:

~~**SECRET//COMINT//X1**~~

AGENDA

1. Purpose
2. Background
3. Definitions and Historical Overview
4. Importance of 'C2C'
5. Target/Technology Trends - DNI Definition
6. "TAXONOMIES"
   - Deployment
   - Functional / SMM
   - Skills
   - Systems
   - Organizational
   - Resources
7. Conclusions
8. Recommendations

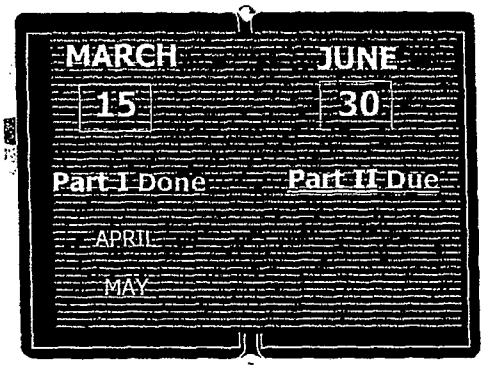
1. Purpose

- **Describe broad strategy for "C2C"**
- **Respond to Congressional tasking regarding** (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

2. Background

- **Congressional direction - FY99 Intelligence Authorization Act.**
  - **Focuses on NSA management of conventional and "C2C" programs**
  - **Requests DIRNSA task NSASAB for two part study**

Part II : Conventional & "C2C" areas (Due 30 June)

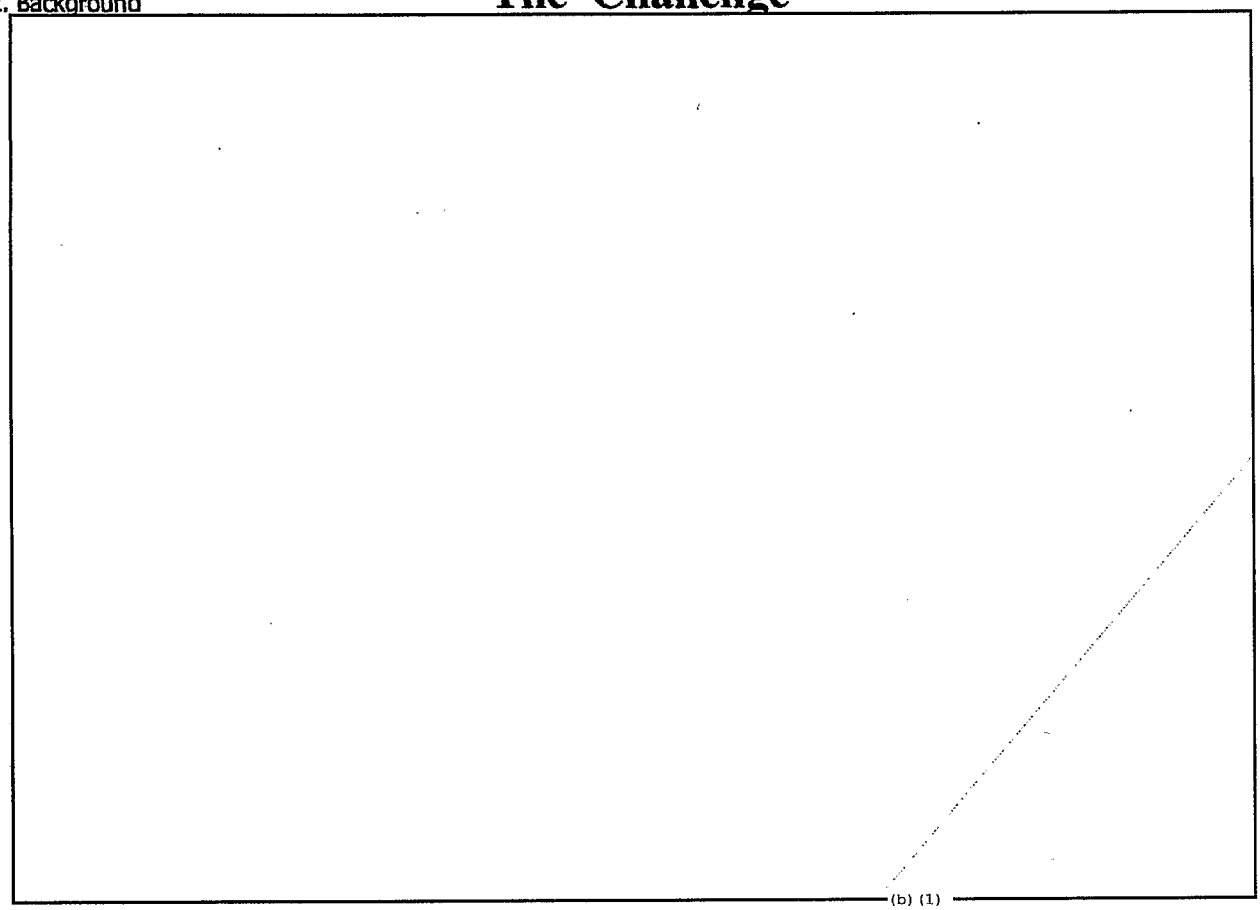


The Tasking

- **"NSASAB should consider broader applications of SARC (SIGINT Automation Research Center) accomplishments and recommend additional SARC R&D activities for automation of collection, analysis and reporting of 'C2C' "**
- **"Identify technical direction and planning for 'C2C' survey"**
- " Do the same thing for 'C2C' that the NSASAB panel did for Conventional under part I "

2. Background

The Challenge



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(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36
(b)(3)-18 USC 798
(b)(3)-50 USC 403

The Challenge (cont'd)

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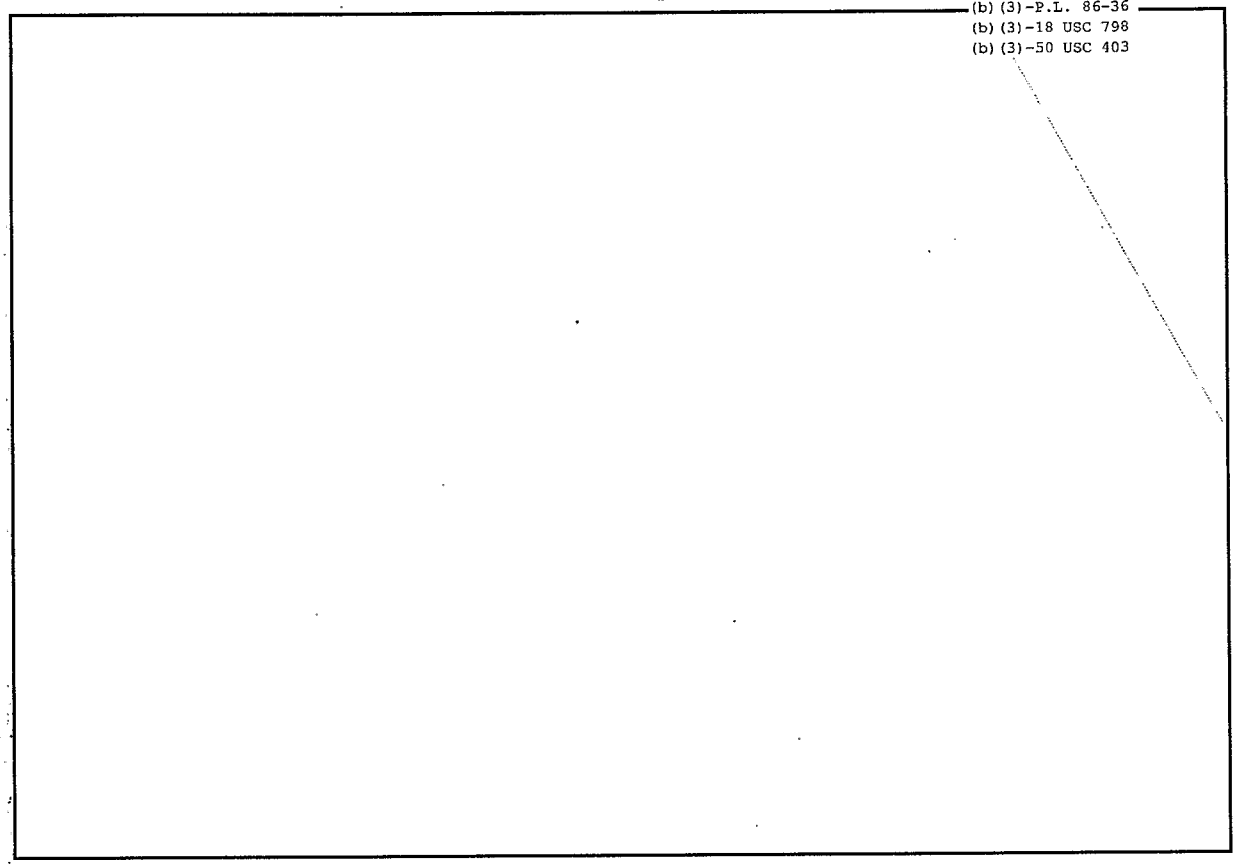
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403



The REAL Challenge

- **The responses to these questions transcend** (b)(3)-P.L. 86-36 **and the SARC**
- **They point out an entirely new paradigm for SIGINT**

The Real Imperatives....

- **A commitment to re-tool: organizationally, programmatically, and technologically**
- **A universally understood template of the concept of SIGINT as it should be conducted and managed**
- **A plan of action which embraces the principle that *"Form Follows Function"***

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(b) (1)
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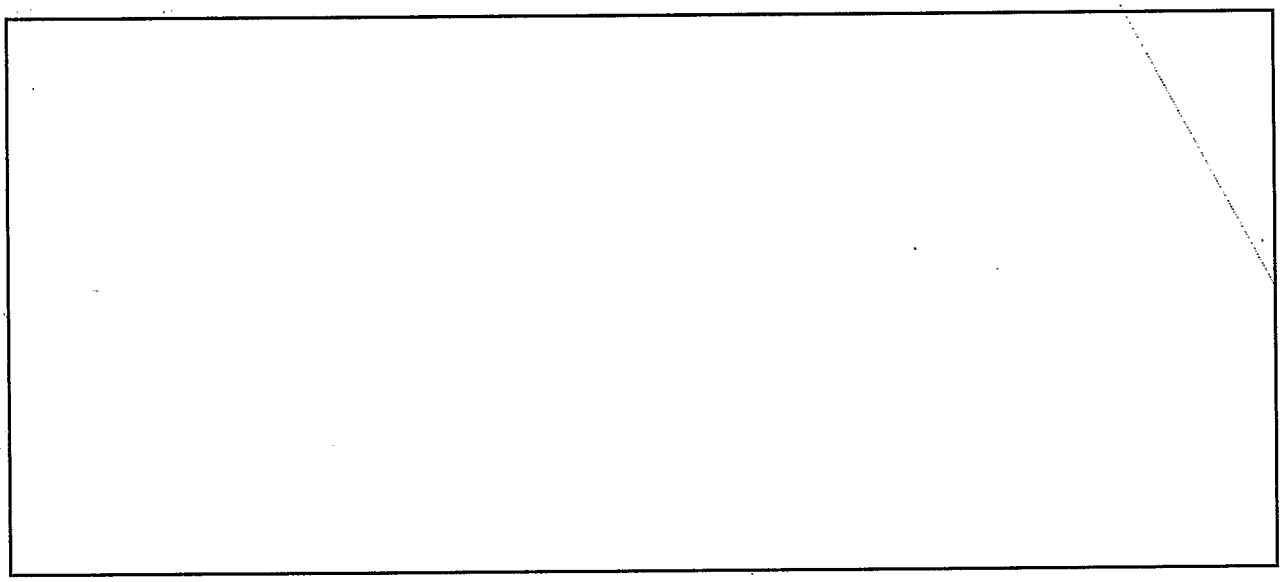
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

What is "C2C" ?

- **Term unique to NSA and its partners**



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The Importance of 'C2C'

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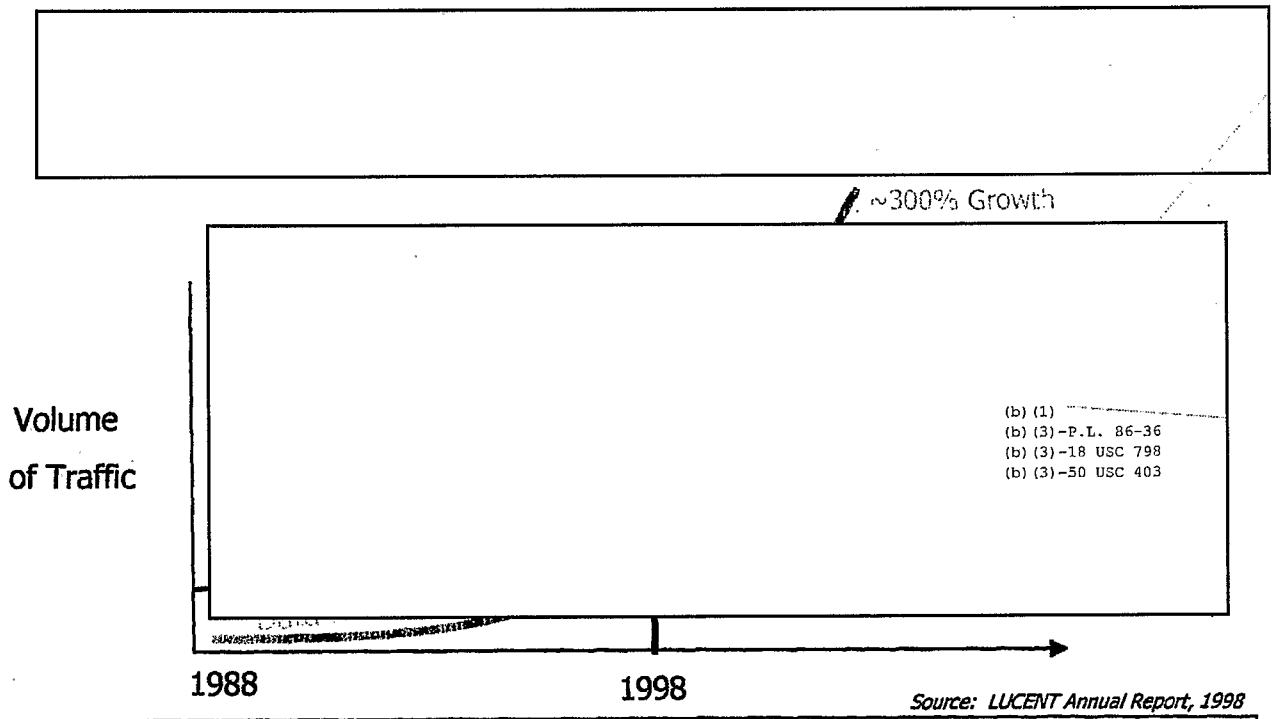
5. Target/Technology Trends



Source: LUCENT Annual Report, 1998

This profound change mandates a new paradigm

Digital Network Intelligence

"The intelligence from intercepted digital data communications transmitted between, or resident on, networked computers"

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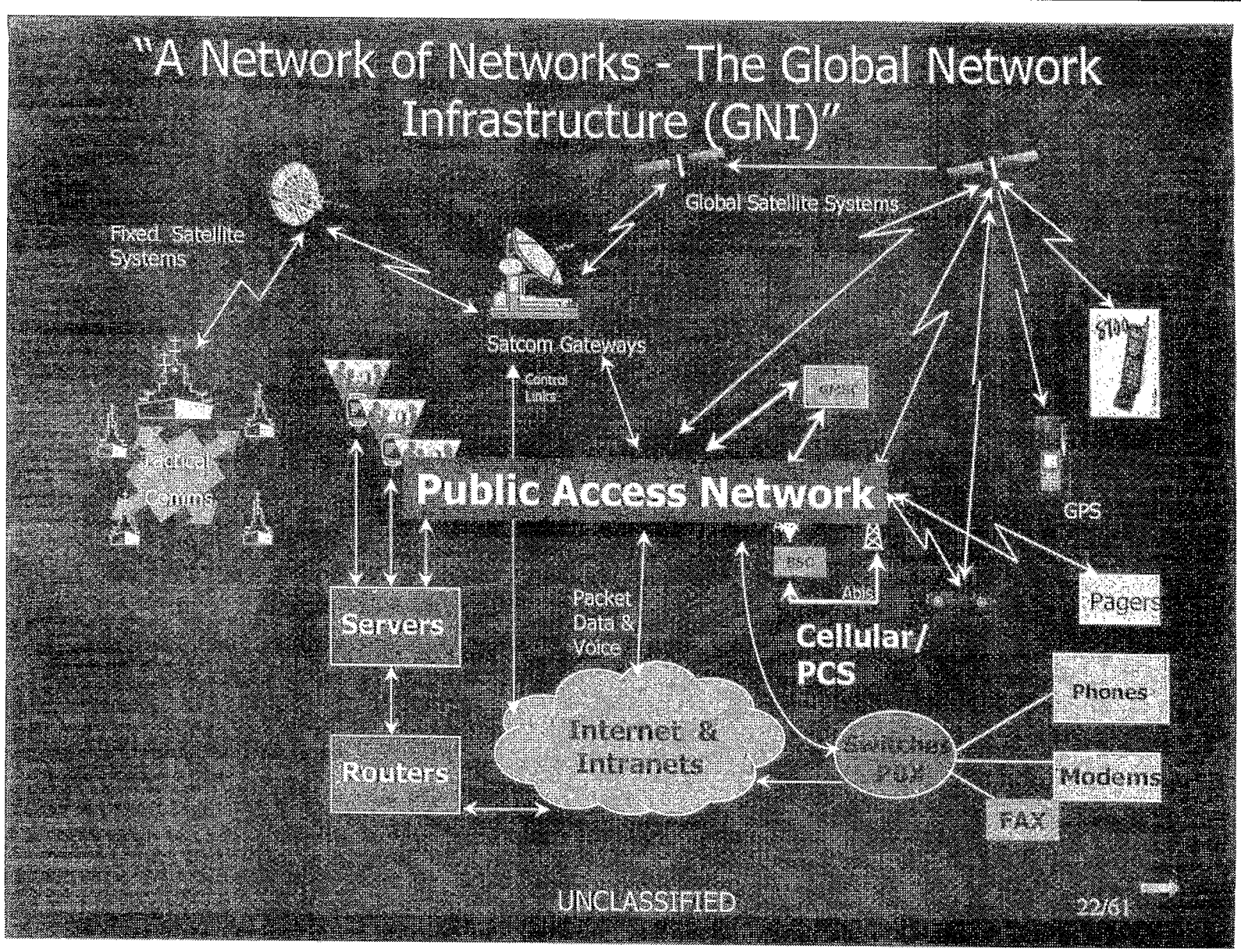
"A Network of Networks - The Global Network Infrastructure (GNI)"



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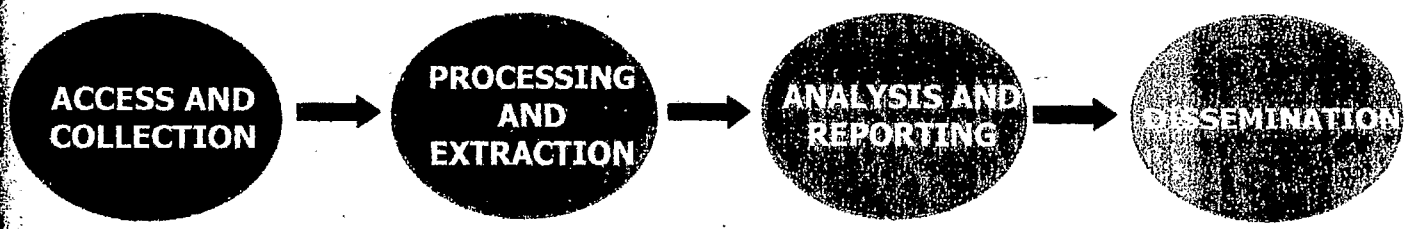
DNI FUNCTIONAL TAXONOMY



Definitions

Includes Attendant Operational & Management Activities

A&C - The activity of identifying and acquiring target networks

P&E - The process of converting machine language into human language

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(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

Dissemination - The forwarding and presentation of multimedia intelligence products

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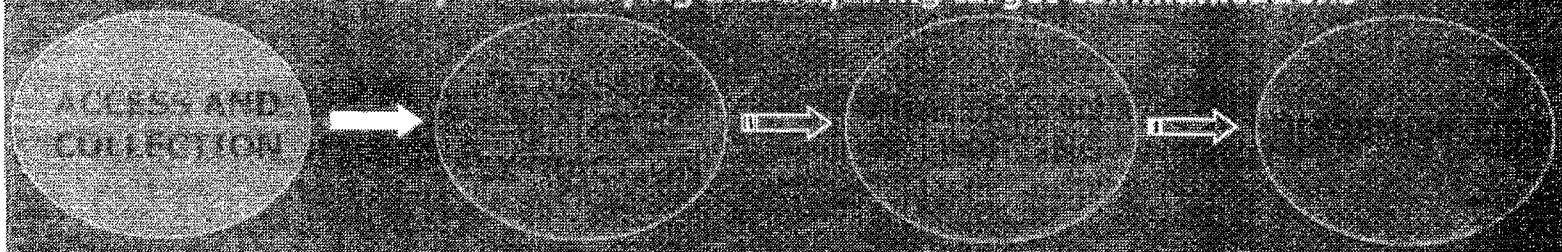
DNI FUNCTIONAL TAXONOMY

ACCESS AND COLLECTION

The activity of identifying and acquiring target communications



Types of Access

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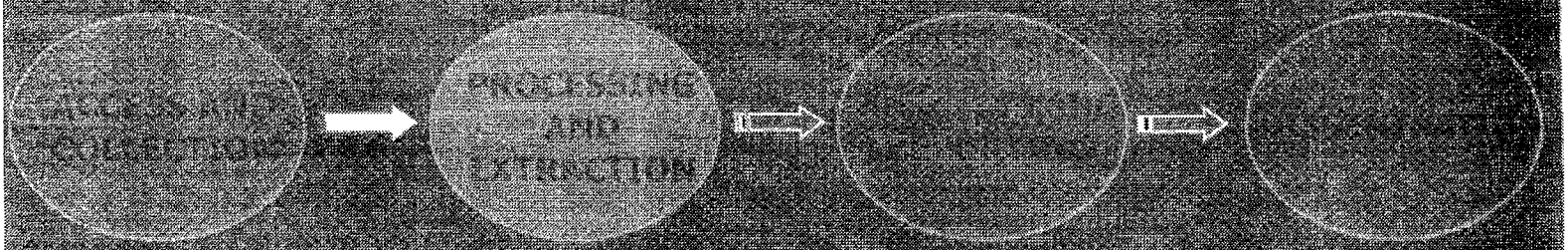
DNI FUNCTIONAL TAXONOMY

PROCESSING AND EXTRACTION

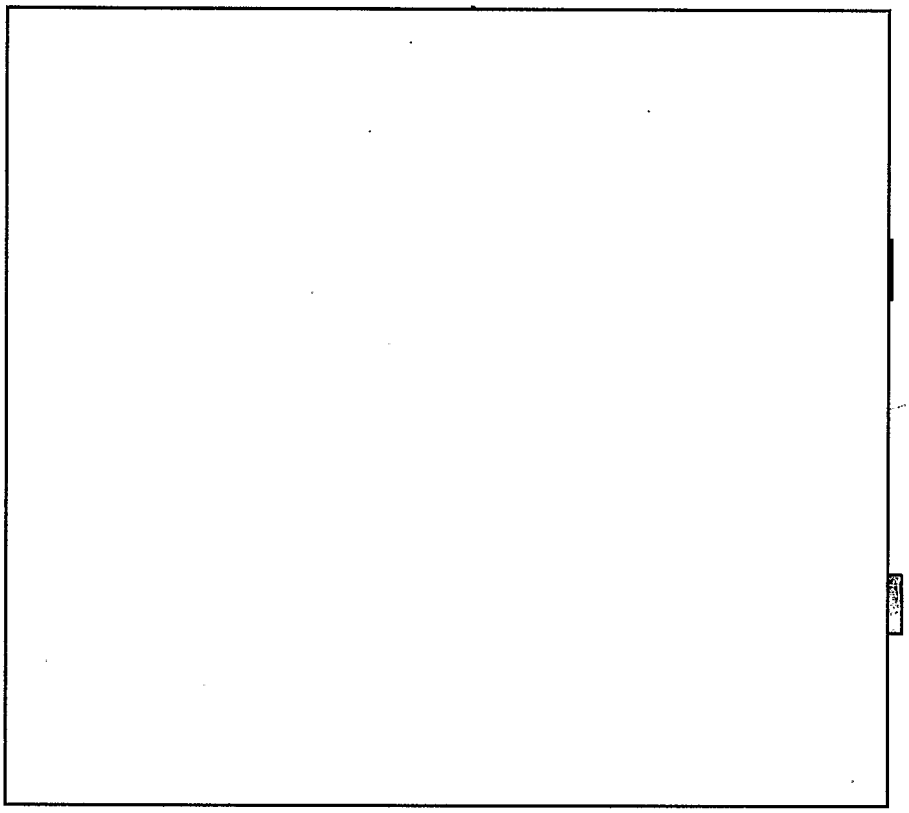
The process of converting machine language into human language



Manipulating huge volumes of heterogeneous complex data

Within P&E there are 4 major functions...

DNI PROCESSING CYCLE



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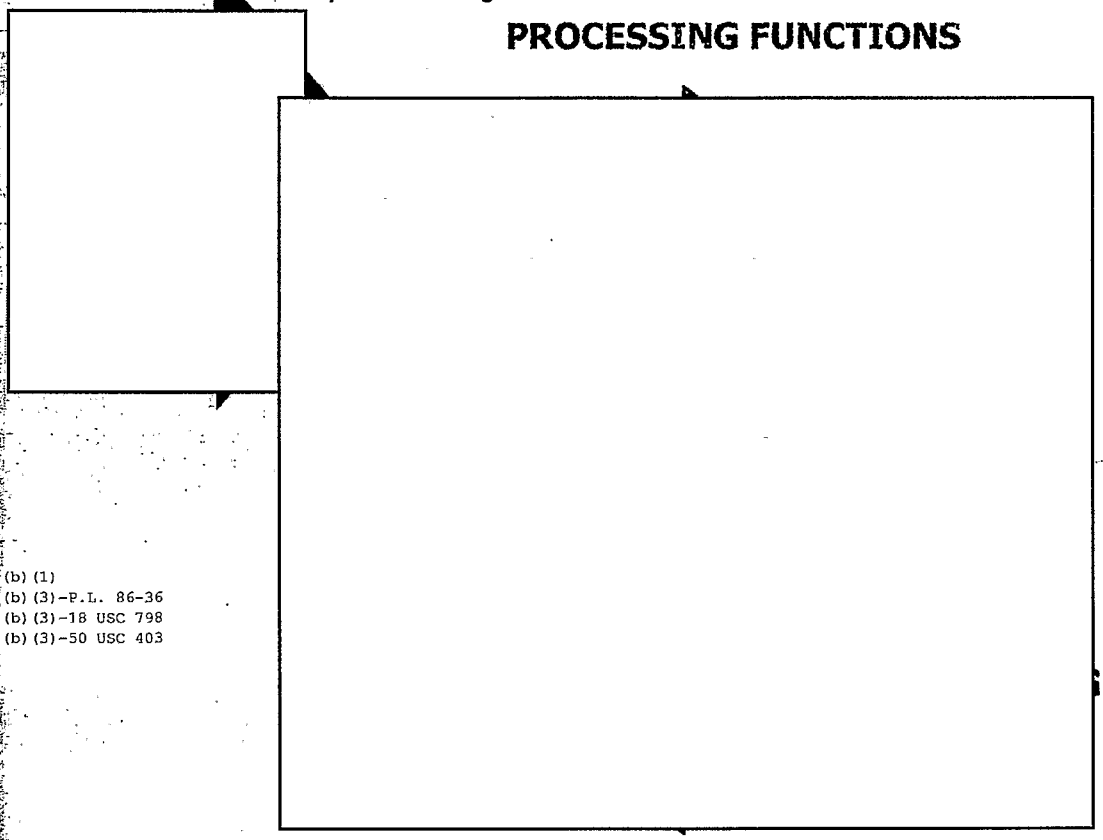
PROCESSING FUNCTIONS



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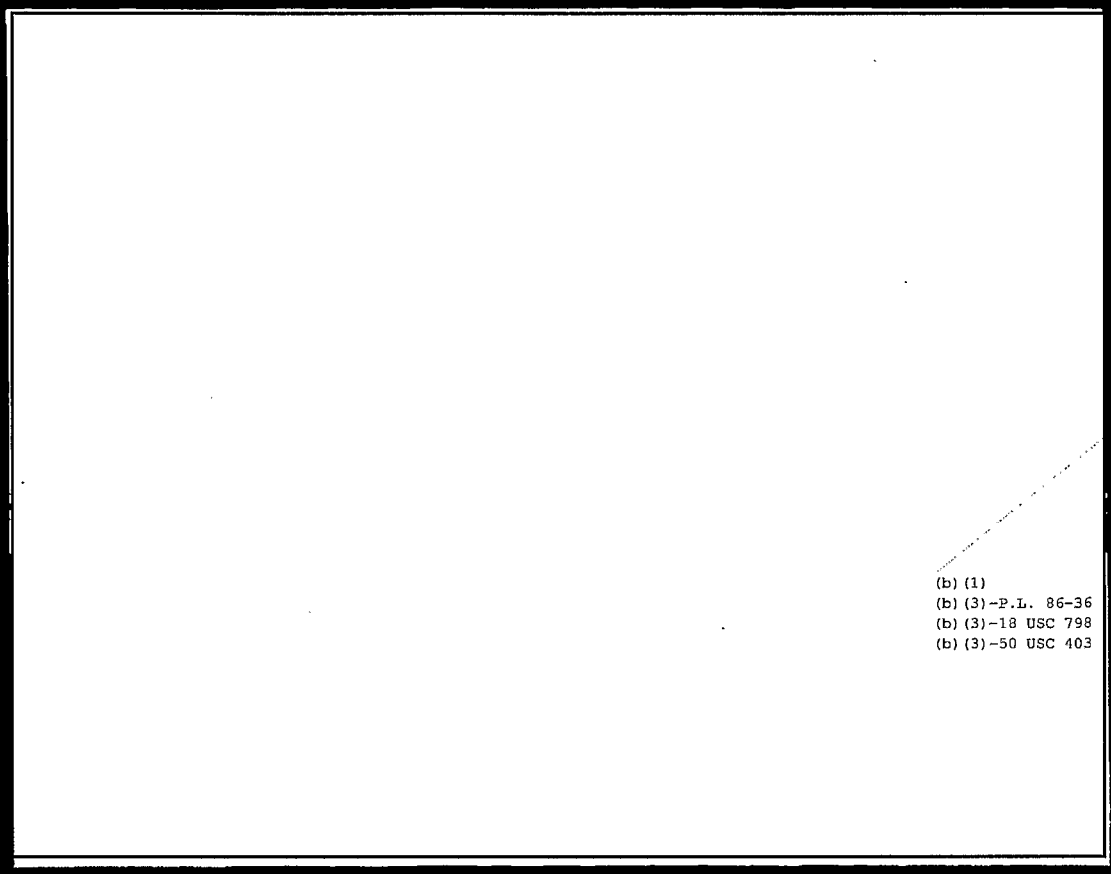
6. Functional Taxonomy - Processing

Example of the signal processing challenge - Where/What do we extract ?



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PROCESSING FUNCTIONS

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PROCESSING FUNCTIONS

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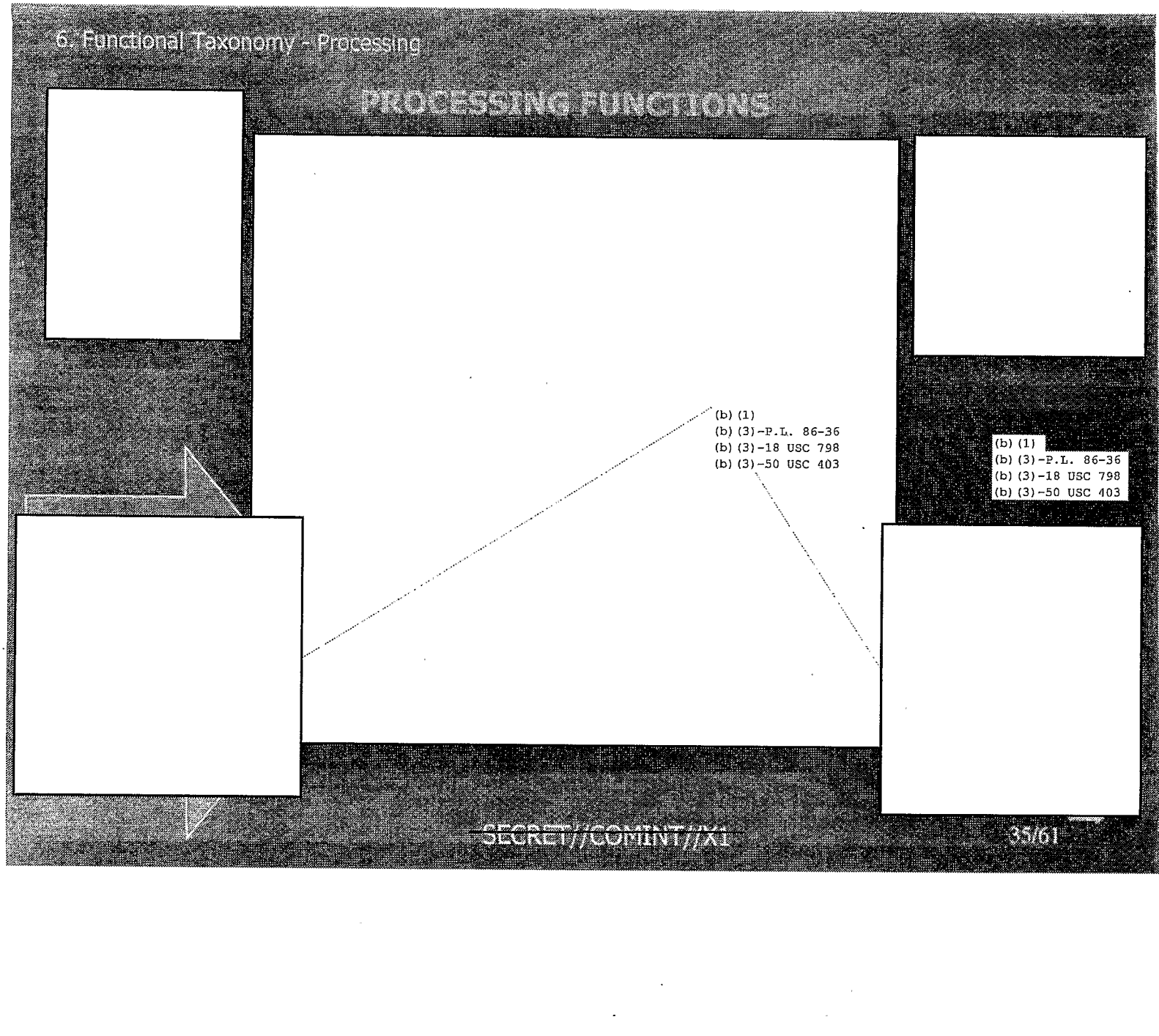
PROCESSING FUNCTIONS
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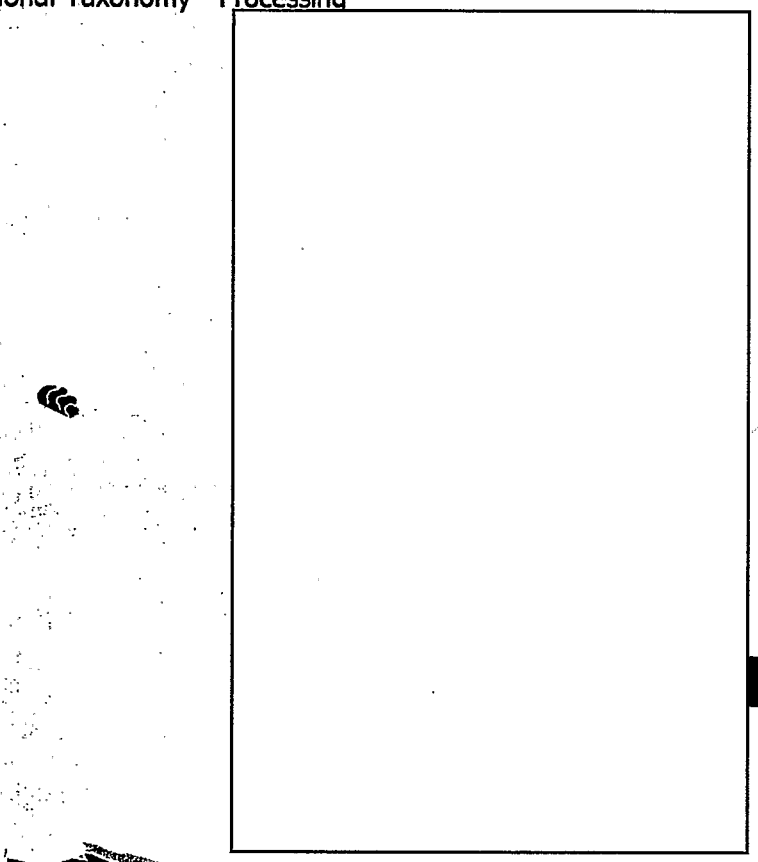
6. Functional Taxonomy - Processing



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METADATA

METADATA

DEFINITION:

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(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

IMPORTANCE:

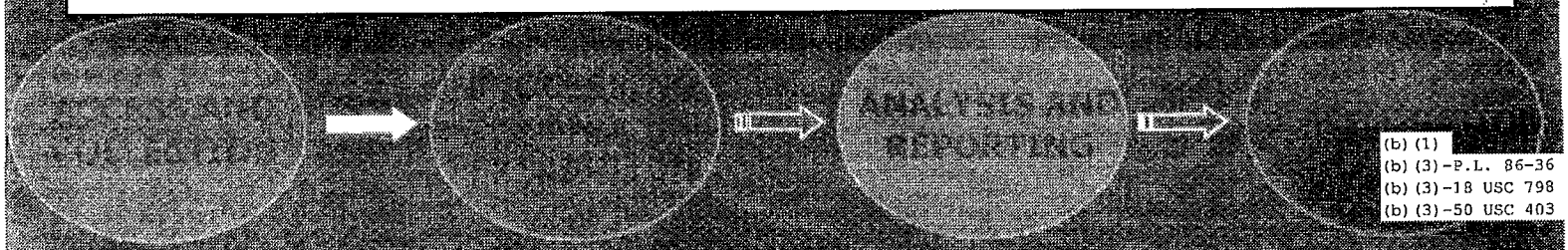
Reduces the amount of irrelevant intercepted data

Critical to SIGINT Mission Management and applies to all missions

The End-to-End DNI Process

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

Analysis and Reporting



(b)(1)
(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36
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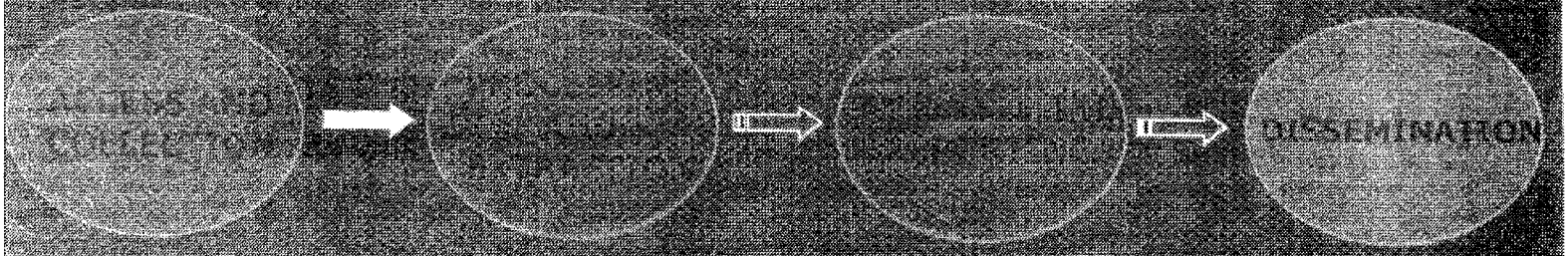
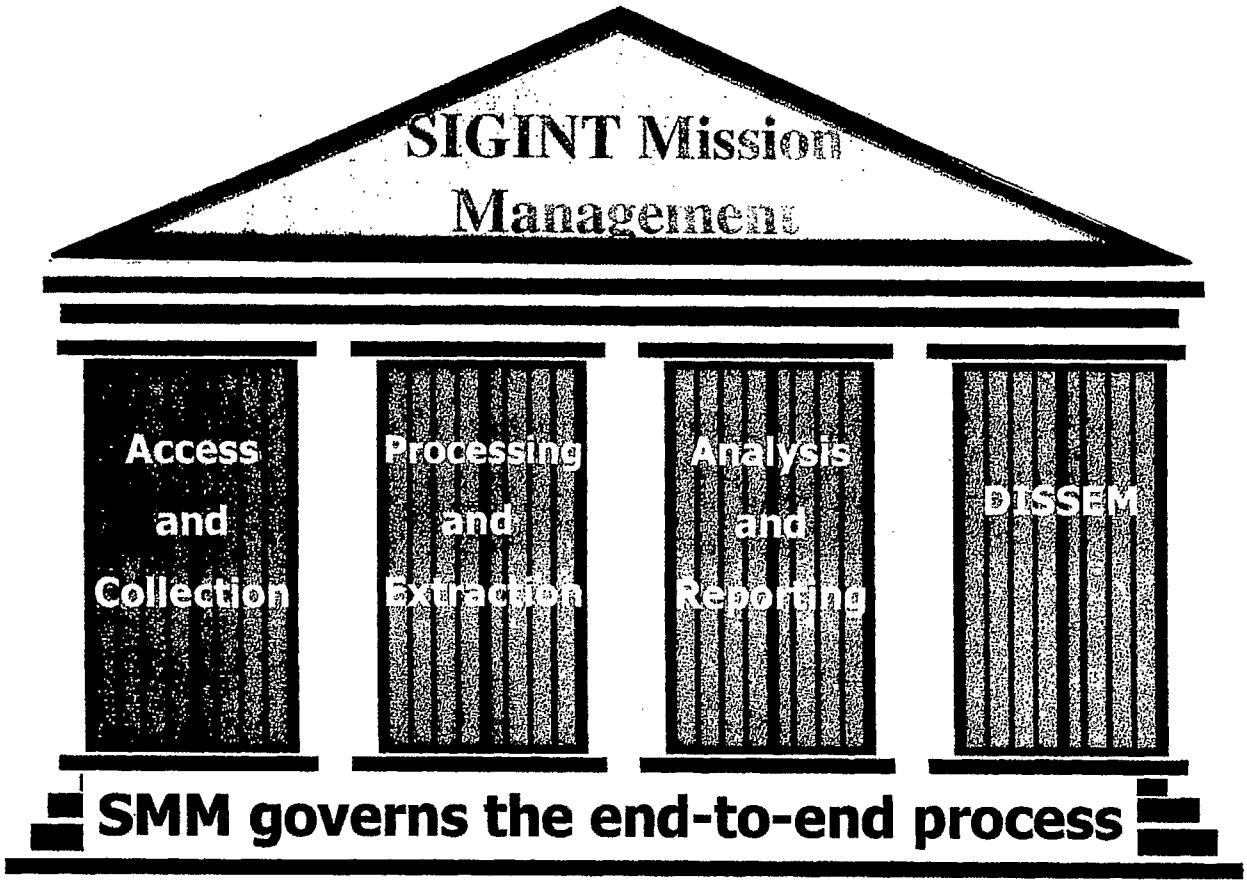
Reporting was text based - Now moving to MULTIMEDIA

DISSEMINATION

The forwarding and presentation of intelligence products



DNI traffic contains multiple media types (multimedia)


SIGINT Mission Management
Access and Collection
Processing and Extraction
Analysis and Reporting
DISSEM
SMM governs the end-to-end process

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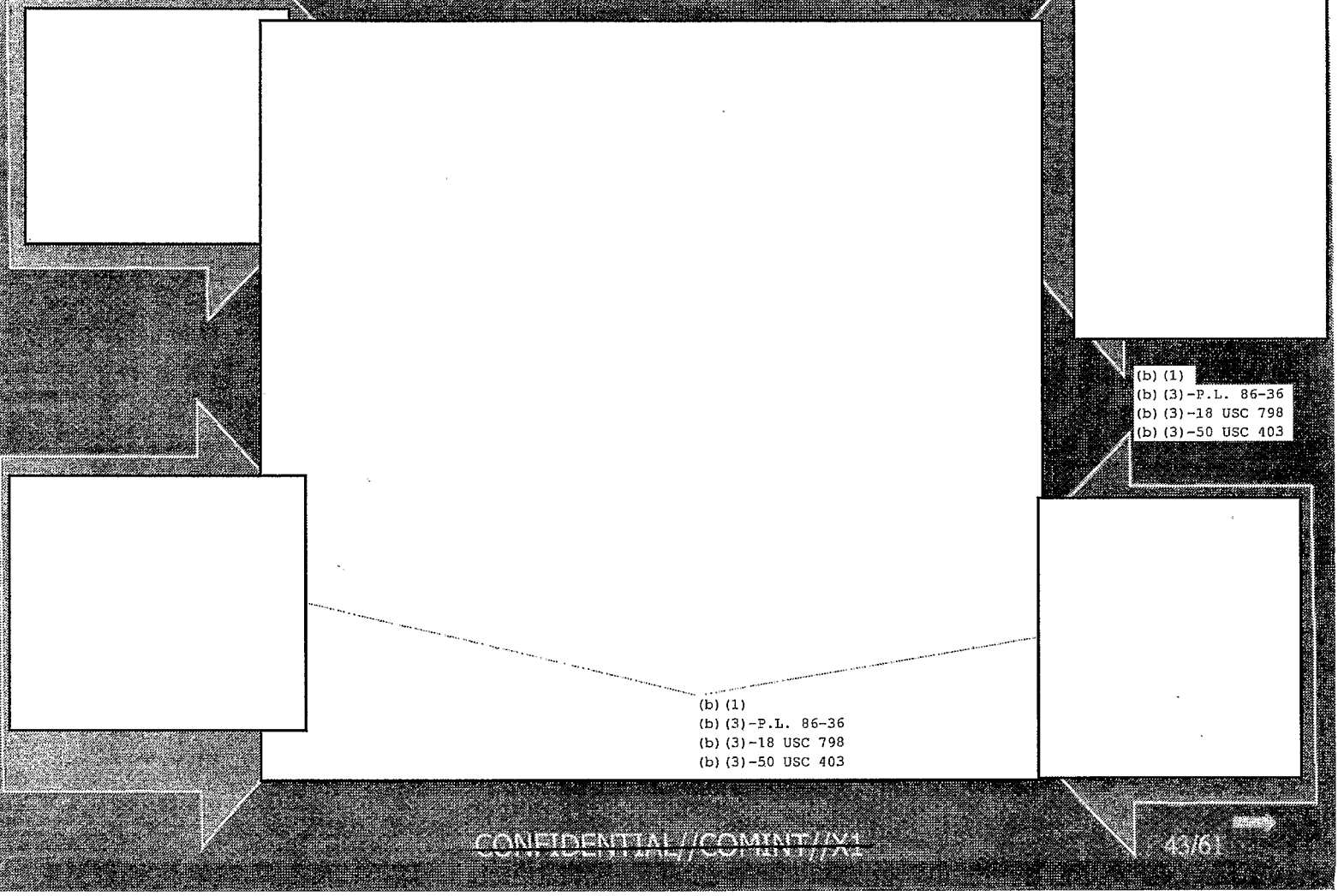
SKILLS TAXONOMY



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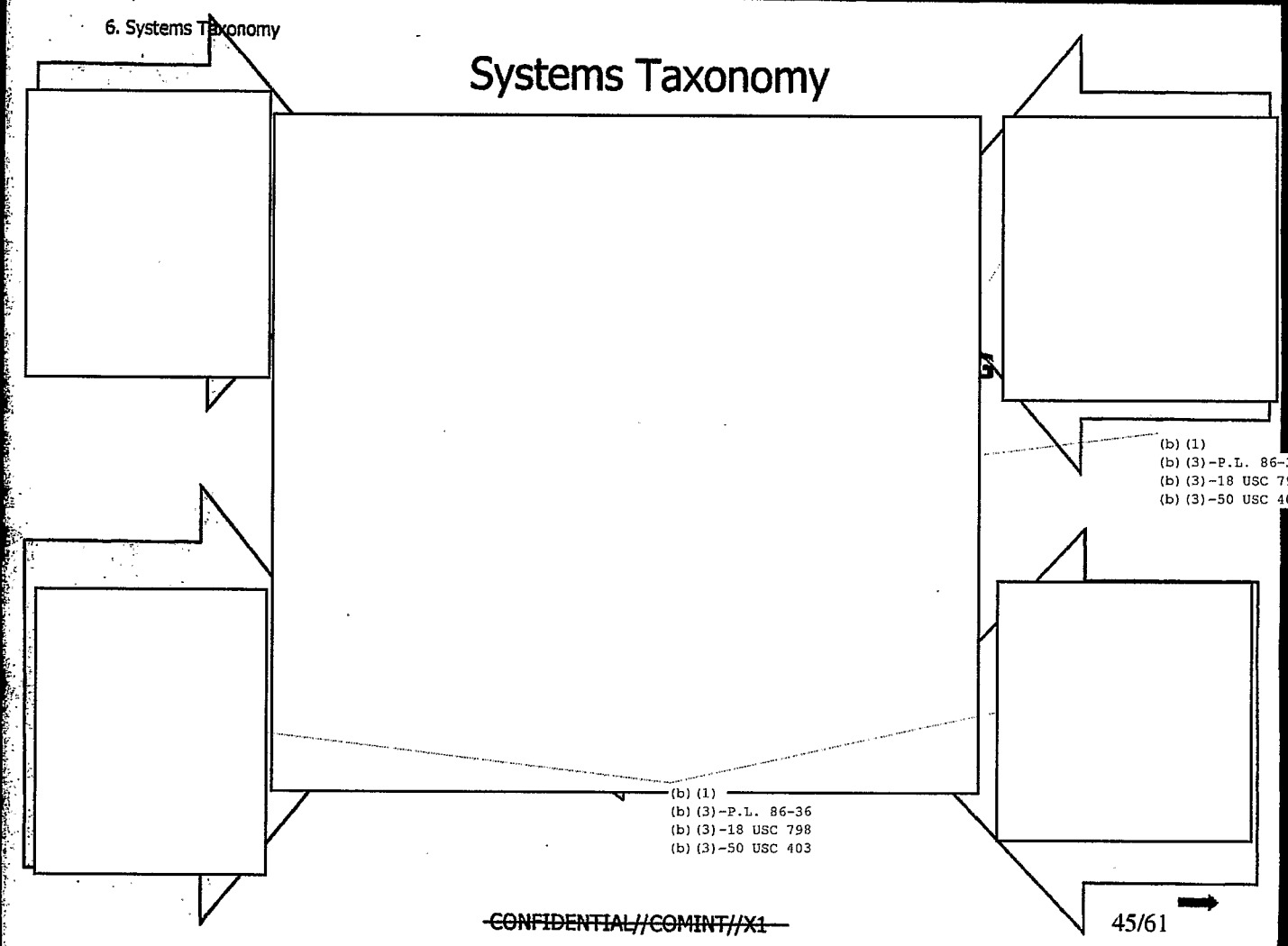
Systems Taxonomy



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(b) (3)-50 USC 403

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(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

DNI SYSTEMS TAXONOMY - Major Systems

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(b)(3)-50 USC 403

GRANDMASTER

Description:

Function:

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(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
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(b) (3)-50 USC 403

Limitations:

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

IS NOT THE "GRAND ANSWER"

SARC

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(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

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Organizational Taxonomy

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(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
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Resource Taxonomy

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Conclusions

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(b) (3)-18 USC 798
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Conclusions (Cont'd)

(b) (1)
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RECOMMENDATIONS

(b) (1)
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

RECOMMENDATIONS (Cont'd)

4) Avoid re-inventing the wheel

- Draw on industry and academia
- True COTS should always be the first choice

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(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-50 USC 403

A CONCLUDING CONCLUSION

TO DO NOTHING.....

IS NOT AN OPTION

Reactions....

(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

- SALT Reaction