

Memorandum M-1581

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Digital Computer Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 1, 1952

To: Test Equipment Committee

From: Louis Sutro

Date: August 6, 1952

Attending: D. R. Brown, J. O'Brien, E. Rich, L. Sutro, N. H. Taylor of the Committee and Chan Watt

Minutes of the meeting of July 25 were approved as presented in M-1569. Sutro was directed to summarize estimates made at that meeting and present them to Harris Fahnestock with the qualification that Ken Olsen's estimate of needs for Burroughs units for MTC might be replaced by a need for plug-in units.

Plug-In Units

The committee reconsidered the order for 400 plug-in units previously approved on June 20. Norman Taylor said that as many as half of these could be used for complicated life tests of ten or more different kinds of cores. Gus O'Brien said that 150 could be used for temporary parts of the IN-Out System. Chan Watt said that if we order the parts now they won't come in until next spring. Norman Taylor said that we could then cancel the order for assembly and use the parts elsewhere if we so desired. The committee decided to let its order for 400 plug-in units stand.

Ferrite Transformers for Plug-In Units

Chan Watt reported that the new ferrite transformers can be produced here by three operators at the rate of 200 a week. Norm Taylor objected to tying up three people doing this indefinitely and suggested that the work be subcontracted. Chan replied that if the winding were done outside, there would be no way of inspecting it before it was covered by the molding. Norm Taylor said it was up to Chan to decide whether to have the units made here or outside and asked him to tell Dave Brown how many cores are needed. Dave said he would order the necessary cores.

Contact with Control Instrument Company

Louis Sutro read the report that is being distributed separately as M-1568 describing the visit of Dave Brown and himself to Control Instrument Company and subsequent telephone conversations. On the question of delivery of the present order for 487 units, members of the committee expressed great concern. Norman Taylor suggested that Sutro visit the factory once a week to learn what is delaying the order. It was the consensus of opinion

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that the actual placement of the next order for Burroughs units should be reconsidered and that Sutro should tell the Control Instrument Company that the order might not be placed with them. The order is now awaiting approval by the Air Force.

On the question of inspection, the consensus of opinion was that the Control Instrument Company could not now be persuaded to adopt our methods of inspection. If after units are received our inspection reveals faults, then Nickerson can take the faulty units back and explain to them how they should be inspected.

Request for New Equipment

The committee received a request from Jack Jacobs for two Burroughs Type 1901-A Inverters. Examination of the circuit schematic revealed that the unit requires -400 volts and had other shortcomings. Dick Best was asked to consider the circuit with Jacobs with a view to improving it and having it assembled in our shop.

Circuit Change

The committee decided to ask Control Instrument Company to remove the two sockets for OA2's from the Type 1301-B Gate-and Delay-Pulse Generator.

Allocation of New Equipment

The committee decided that of the equipment that has come in this week, one Tektronix Type 512 should go to Group 63, one Type 513-D should go to Group 61 and one Type 513-D should go to either Papian or Corderman depending upon who needs it most.

Signed Louis Sutro DRB
Louis Sutro

Approved DRB
David R. Brown

LS/jk

cc: E. Rich C. Corderman
N. Taylor C. Watt
R. Best H. Fahnestock
D. Brown H. Morley
J. O'Brien R. Rathbone
 W. Drogue