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Memorandum 6M-3336

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Division 6 - Lincoln Laboratory  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Lexington 73, Massachusetts

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SUBJECT: SAGE SYSTEM MEETING, January 24, 1955

To: Those Present

From: David R. Brown

Date: January 27, 1955

Present: J. W. Forrester, W. H. Ayer, P. Brager, D. R. Brown,  
S. H. Dodd, R. R. Everett, S. B. Hibbard, D. R. Israel,  
J. F. Jacobs, H. J. Kirshner, A. P. Krumer, K. E. McVicar,  
B. E. Morriss, J. A. O'Brien, J. C. Proctor, R. L. Walquist,  
and C. R. Wieser

- Agenda:
1. Proposed Change Procedure
  2. Charactron Display
  3. Mark X Radar
  4. Exhibit AFCRC 17
  5. Direction Center Floor Plan Changes
  6. Lincoln Laboratory Visiting Committee
  7. Test Specifications for Drum System
  8. Digital Data Transmitters and Receivers
  9. Meeting of Installation and Test Planning Committee
  10. Program to Study Long-Range Objectives

1. Proposed Change Procedure

A draft of a memorandum (6M-3174-1) outlining a proposed change procedure for production of FSQ-7's has been sent to IBM for comments. The change procedure is intended to provide a system to document, keep track of, and carry out changes. The MIT Systems Office is to be the central point for coordinating changes, but changes concerning non-IBM organizations will be handled through the Production Coordination Office. The final proposal will be sent to the Air Force as a joint IBM-MIT proposal.

2. Charactron Display

Group 38 has completed its first legibility test of the Charactron display. The reference legibility was taken from a display with very long intensification time and short period. With the expected operating intensification time and period, one half of the reference legibility is obtained provided no room illumination is present. Legibility falls off rapidly as room illumination increases. Group 38 will

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continue the tests.

3. Mark X Radar

Jitter from the azimuth commutator of the radar set is now believed the principle cause of difficulty with the Mark X radar. A better commutator is being installed.

4. Exhibit AFCRC 17

Exhibit AFCRC 17 has been delayed at AFCRC and ARDC because of lack of detail in the exhibit and concern that coordination between IBM and other organizations is not adequate. The Air Force will meet with IBM and Lincoln Laboratory during the week of January 24 to discuss this coordination. Additions to the exhibit have been prepared to reassure the Air Force that the situation is satisfactory.

5. Direction Center Floor Plan Changes

Changes are being considered in two areas-- in the track-while-scan room and in the computer room.

The changes proposed for the track-while-scan room do not appear desirable. These changes should be held and ADC advised.

Changes in the computer room are necessary because of minor changes in frame lengths and locations. Changes necessitated by the additional drum system are still unknown.

A. P. Kromer will learn from Western Electric, or the architects, the deadline for desirable building changes. He should also determine whether or not these changes should be submitted as they appear or near the deadline in a single package. The proposed changes should be re-examined and discussed at a later meeting.

6. Lincoln Laboratory Visiting Committee

The Lincoln Laboratory visiting committee will meet here on Sunday, March 6. The committee will see Building F, tour the laboratory, and discuss various parts of the work of the laboratory.

7. Test Specifications for Drum System

Specifications for the FSQ-7 drum system are being prepared with IBM's assistance.

8. Digital Data Transmitters and Receivers

MIT, IBM, and Bell Telephone Laboratories have recommended that digital data transmitters and receivers be rented as a part of the telephone circuit. ADC is not satisfied that this arrangement should be

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accepted. The problem has been referred to the Joint Project Office. Lincoln Laboratory may be asked to provide comments as to why the transmitters and receivers should be rented. A. P. Kromer has collected data to serve as a basis for these comments.

9. Meeting of Installation and Test Planning Committee

The eight-month period for installation and test of production FSQ-7's has been re-established and accepted by the installation and test planning committee. However, IBM does not agree with MIT on the estimates of manpower required and has rejected two-shift operation. The time schedule for the first production installation now calls for two machines (a duplex) on October 15 with 50 percent reliability.

MIT accepts the eight-month time schedule but does not accept IBM's manpower estimates; the main committee report should reflect this.

10. Program to Study Long-Range Objectives

This item was deferred, to be taken up at the next meeting.

Signed

*David R. Brown*

David R. Brown  
Secretary

DRB/mcl

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