Subject: Group Leaders' Meeting - February 20, 1956

To: Group Leaders and Associate Group Leaders

From: C. W. Farr

Date: February 21, 1956


Agenda:
1. Disposition of People Taking IBM Course
2. Replacement for Heineck
3. Group 67 Schedule Review
4. Group 66 Activity--McGuire

1. Disposition of People Taking IBM Course

Zraket raised the question concerning the assignment of personnel currently taking the IBM instruction course. Jacobs pointed out that such personnel would be more valuable, at least initially, in programming effort than in program specification writing. Jacobs has set up a meeting February 21 with Arnow, Benington, Israel, and Zraket to discuss this problem.

2. Replacement for Heineck

Zraket stated that Heineck plans to leave March 1, 1956. For the present, his responsibilities will be carried by Jack Groce of IBM. Meanwhile, Zraket received assurance that he should recruit a replacement for Heineck.
3. Group 67 Schedule Review

Arnow and Jacobs reviewed the Group 67 schedule status, concluding that slippage has been stopped and that the schedule has held its own over the past month. Study indicates organization properly distributed, individuals working at capacity, no further possibility of eliminating work; it is probable that additional manpower will be needed to accelerate the effort since there seems to be no other way. Utilization of personnel from the IBM course or assistance from Group 61 will be investigated. This question will be probed at the February 21 meeting mentioned in Item 1 above. Jacobs emphasized the importance of meeting the schedule and his intentions to find a way.

Incidental to the scheduling discussion, Rich stated that an ESS test schedule has been received from Wells and Grandy which looks unreasonably tight in the period starting July 1. Rich believes proper planning can improve the workability of the schedule.

4. Group 66 Activity--McGuire

Morriss reviewed Group 66 activity in establishing a program for Lincoln responsibility at the first three operational SAGE sites. A draft of the tasks to be performed has been prepared and discussed with Colonel Lee, with RAND Corporation, and with Wilkes of WE ADES. Widely varying points of view exist concerning responsibility at the operational sites. Morriss summarized that tasks exist for approximately 50 staff people not now planned for and probably an equal number of nonstaff people.

Forrester stated that informal discussion with General Wray of the JPO indicated JPO awareness of the problem. Forrester asked Morriss to organize a document similar to the outlining of programming tasks a year ago; to expedite assignment of responsibility, Forrester requested that tasks be described in the document with no overlap.

Morriss stated a plan to circulate February 20 his prepared draft of the problem in order to obtain criticism for rewriting in final form next week.

The point was made that the McGuire Commander has not yet been assigned, to the best of our knowledge.

Discussion ended with the conclusion that many of the questions can best be attacked after Morriss' memorandum has been issued in final form.

CWF:EH

C. W. Farr, Secretary