

Memorandum M-1696  
October 28, 1952

Page 1 of 1

Digital Computer Laboratory  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Subject: Liaison with IBM Corporation  
To: All Staff members Digital Computer Laboratory  
From: Harris Fahnestock

Abstract: Maintenance of complete records of our work with IBM requires liaison between MIT and this company be through a central point of contact. Art Kromer will handle this assignment.

In view of the extended development program that we are about to undertake jointly with IBM Corporation, it is important that this laboratory have complete records covering all aspects of our relationship and work with IBM. The only practical way to carry out proper and logical administration of this effort and to fulfill the contractual requirements is to establish a central point of contact through which all matters are channelled. Since Group 62 will be responsible for WWII development, it has been decided to centralize liaison with IBM in this group under Norm Taylor's direction. Art Kromer will handle this assignment.

This action is intended to offer a service to all members of the division as well as provide records of the interchange of information between the two organizations, make arrangements for personal visits and all other related matters. Centralization of liaison will in no way interfere with or limit direct discussion of technical work but will merely maintain proper records of the work done.

If, in connection with your work, published or unpublished documents or any material is turned over to an IBM representative, note of this should be promptly given to Art Kromer so that our files may reflect a complete and current status of our joint activity.

Similarly, IBM has been asked to direct all incoming communications to the centralized liaison service.

Your full cooperation and careful adherence to this policy is requested. Successful coordination of the effort of both these large engineering groups is necessary if we are to develop an adequate computer within the desired time interval. This can best be accomplished through proper use of the liaison service.

  
Harris Fahnestock

HF/APK/aik