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Memorandum M-2557

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Division 6 - Lincoln Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

SUBJECT: Group 62 Section Leaders Meeting, December 7, 1953

To: Division 6 Group Leaders; Group 62 Staff Members

From: P. J. Gray

Abstract: Study is underway to reduce the cost of the prototypes to keep within the Project High budget. Items to receive top priority in the next few weeks are listed.

1. General

The only major meeting scheduled for this week will be a meeting on the input system to be held in Cambridge on Thursday and Friday.

At IBM last week the problem of reconciling the IBM Project High budget with the cost of the two FSQ-7 prototypes received considerable study. In an effort to reduce the cost of the prototypes, several changes and modifications were made:

1. The power supply system was simplified by providing less complicated control. It is estimated that this will save about \$250,000.
2. The regulation and ripple spec. for the power system were reduced.
3. The number of tubes to be procured for the prototypes was also cut. Two tubes for each socket using standard commercial tubes will be purchased, and tubes for one and one-half sockets where premium tubes are required will be purchased.
4. The writing and publication of a complete instruction manual was delayed until a later contract.

2. Top Priority Items

Agreement has been reached with IBM on certain portions of the program which should receive top priority in the next few weeks. These are, in order of priority:

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Top Priority Items (Continued)

1. Formal release letter on the order code.
2. Concurrence and release of instruction frame.
3. Specifications on inputs, particularly manual inputs and inputs from display consoles.
4. Review of mapper and radar data inputs.
5. Release on input logic.
6. Formal specifications for display.
7. Release for display.
8. Logical release of output system and SDV output drivers.

3. MTC

It is planned to shut down MTC for a major reconstruction of the control element. This will involve about one week or more. The computer appears to be ready at this time for initial installation of the magnetic drum and memory.

Space will be requested in the Whittemore Building for the MTC computer from July through December of 1954, as it appears that if the computer is to be moved it would be extremely undesirable to move it before late in 1954.

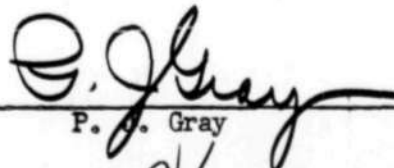
4. Light Cannon

Work is continuing on the light cannon with the ultimate hope of being able to omit this device. It has been agreed that the border cross-telling problem can be programmed. The question of manual vs. automatic initiation is still to be resolved.

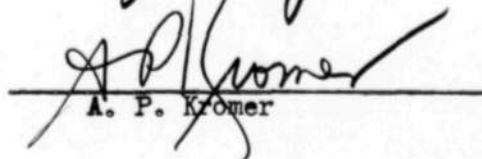
5. Schedules

IBM is now putting considerable effort on the generation of detailed time schedules. Although a complete and more or less final set of schedules probably will not be available until February, preliminary schedules which will be usable should be available in three to four weeks.

Signed:


P. J. Gray

Approved:


A. P. Kromer

PJG/mmt

CC: J. W. Forrester, R. R. Everett

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