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Air Traffic Control Project  
Servomechanisms Laboratory  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

SUBJECT: BI-WEEKLY REPORT, JULY 7, 1950

1.0 GENERAL

(W. G. Welchman)

One of the conclusions resulting from study of air traffic control is that straight-forward systems will prove superior to "ingenious" ones. Some time was spent in adding a small section to Summary Report #1 in order to explain what we mean by a straight-forward system and an ingenious one. Further time was spent in fitting David Israel's description of a coded program into the general structure of the report.

(- Dr. Minville)

It is our intention to study of the computer as an element of a control system. From initial studies, it seems that the digital computer's responses can be described by transfer functions and unwanted signals for all linear operations such as adding, differentiating, and integrating. Now the procedure is more definite. I shall describe it in a moment. The techniques of my thesis seem applicable.

(- Dr. Welchman)

With the completion of the preparation of Summary Report #1, Section III-B which reported on the role of the computer in the control system has been finished. The final draft of the title page has proved to be unsatisfactory and a revision has been prepared. Some need of time has been great in relation to the preparation of the final drawings for the report. These drawings have nearly all been completed by the drafting room.

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