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Memorandum 6M-3798

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Division 6 - Lincoln Laboratory page 1 of 3
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lexington 73, Massachusetts

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SUBJECT: SAGE SYSTEM MEETING, 1 AUGUST 1955
To: Distribution List
From: E. D. Lundberg
Date: 1 August 1955
Approved: B. E. Morriss
B. E. Morriss

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- Agenda:
1. Display System
 2. Study - 700 series IBM Machines
 3. Card Preparation Room
 4. Schedules for Operational and Mathematical Specifications
 5. Industrial Management Study
 6. Meetings Scheduled This Week

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
Auth: DDJ
By: LLS
Date: 4-4-60

1. Display System

N. H. Taylor briefly reviewed the status of changes to the display system required as a result of the revisions to the console equipment and label layout specifications. A meeting to discuss these changes was held at Lincoln on 20 July and was attended by representatives of the ADES Project Office, AFCRC, WE-ADES, IBM, Hazeltine, and Lincoln. As a result of this meeting, it was decided that the ground rules should be clarified, and a procedure established to insure the needed use of the flexibility in the console layouts. Schwartz (WE-ADES) requested IBM to make a study of the cost required to: 1) make necessary changes in the display system for XD-1 to reflect present operational requirements; and 2) provide the operational spares necessary to provide the required flexibility. IBM has indicated a verbal estimate of \$600,000 for item 1) and \$400,000 for item 2). As a result of the above estimates, the ADES Project Office has indicated that it desires to make a cost study. This is considered undesirable if it will result in a delay to the SAGE program.

2. Study - 700 series IBM Machines

C. R. Wieser discussed a study being made by H. D. Bennington of the amount of XD-1 computer time that could be saved by the use of the proper tape conversion equipment, e.g., tape to card, card to tape, and tape to printer machines. The use of this equipment will result in a saving of some four to six hours per day of XD-1 computer time during the period

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The research reported in this document was supported jointly by the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force under Air Force Contract No. AF 19(122)-454.

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Memorandum 6M-3798

page 2

from November 1955 to January 1957. Other possibilities being considered to reduce XD-1 time in connection with data processing programs is the use of MTC or a 701 or 704 computer modified to use compatible tape units, i.e., IBM 728 machines. The study has progressed to the point where it is apparent that the use of tape conversion equipment is the most desirable solution. A committee comprised of representatives of the Systems Office and Group 61 will further investigate such aspects of this proposal as costs, manpower, and schedules. H. E. Anderson will contact IBM to determine whether the required equipment can be delivered by the time required.

3. Card Preparation Room

B. E. Morriss discussed briefly the problems resulting from joint Lincoln-IBM use of card machines located in Building C which have been furnished to IBM under the 1404 contract. It was decided that priorities would be established for the various tasks performed by the machines and that these priorities would be agreed upon by the parties concerned.

4. Schedules for Operational and Mathematical Specifications

J. A. Arnow briefly reviewed the schedules for operational and mathematical specifications. This revealed that progress is satisfactory to date, except for the tracking and monitoring specifications which are about one month behind schedule. However, coding is proceeding as scheduled. A question was raised concerning whether the proper personnel will be available as required to carry out the various activities scheduled. Arnow stated that we have no reason at the present time to feel that the proper personnel will not be available as required. Jay W. Forrester requested that he be notified as soon as there were indications that the overall schedules would not be met.

5. Industrial Management Study

C. W. Farr described a technique used in measuring supervisory effectiveness through the use of an anonymous questionnaire given to employees. One of the authors of this test is a member of the faculty of the M.I.T. School of Industrial Management. To date the test has been run on about 300,000 people and is considered to give a fairly good indication of morale in a group or an organization. Jay W. Forrester indicated that if the test were conducted, it should be done on the basis that it is an interesting experiment. However, it was felt that additional information is required before a decision can be made.

6. Meetings Scheduled This Week

a. A meeting will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, 3 and 4 August, among WE-ADES, BTL, AFCRC, RADC, and Lincoln to discuss the operational plan for simultaneous and backup operation at radio and radar sites. The meeting will convene in A-215 at 9:30 A.M.

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Memorandum 6M-3798

page 3

b. A meeting will be held at Colorado Springs, Colorado, on 2-4 August among representatives of ADC, ADES, and Lincoln to discuss the building redesign. This will be attended by Ayer and Smiley.

c. A briefing will be held for General Smith and EADF at Lincoln on Thursday, 4 August.


E. D. Lundberg
Production Coordination Office

EDL:mmc

Distributions:

Meeting Attendants

H. E. Anderson
J. A. Arnow
H. D. Bennington
D. R. Brown
S. H. Dodd
C. W. Farr
J. W. Forrester
J. F. Jacobs
H. J. Kirshner
E. D. Lundberg (2)
K. E. McVicar
B. E. Morriss
T. R. Parkins
N. H. Taylor
C. R. Wieser

Others

W. H. Ayer
J. J. Carson
R. R. Everett
S. Hibbard
D. R. Israel
J. A. O'Brien
B. B. Paine
J. C. Proctor
E. S. Rich
P. Youtz
C. A. Zraket

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