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Memorandum L-98

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Digital Computer Laboratory  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

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| CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: |                |
| W th:                      | <i>DD254</i>   |
| By:                        | <i>RRE</i>     |
| Date:                      | <i>2-15-66</i> |

SUBJECT: GROUP LEADERS' MEETING, May 25, 1953

To: Group Leaders

From: David R. Brown

Date: May 27, 1953

Present: J. W. Forrester, D. R. Brown, S. H. Dodd, R. R. Everett,  
H. Fahnestock, N. H. Taylor, C. R. Wieser, and P. Youtz

Agenda: 1. Correction to the Minutes of the May 18 Meeting  
2. Mail Service  
3. ERA Buffer Drum  
4. MTC Operation  
5. Cape Cod Equipment

1. Correction to the Minutes of the May 18 Meeting

In item 7 of the minutes of the Group Leaders' Meeting of May 18, 1953, Memorandum L-97, the sentence that read: "Also, either Proctor, Fahnestock or Osborne will stay to handle personnel." should be changed to read: "Also, someone will probably stay at the Sarta building to handle personnel."

2. Mail Service

The laboratory mail service appears to be inadequate. Two shortcomings are noted: (1) long time delays, and (2) improper handling of classified material. Specific complaints should be referred to Fahnestock.

3. ERA Buffer Drum

A letter from McVicar and Ziegler states that testing of the buffer drum at ERA is ahead of schedule.

The new auxiliary drum is being run in at the present time. An additional order will be required to fill spare holes with the new type heads.

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4. MTC Operation

Operation and continued development of the MTC presents some problems. The most important job for the immediate future is an investigation of the memory. The changes in WWI circuits and construction which were incorporated in MTC should be evaluated. In addition to these tasks, it is important that operation and maintenance of the MTC be adequately supervised and executed. A well-qualified staff member should be placed in charge of MTC to keep it functioning smoothly so that the investigation of the memory and other new features can be carried out. Olsen has been placed in charge of the WWII systems section. Ogden and Hosier are possible candidates for the MTC job. Farley may also be a possibility. The position will be held open until we find out what Farley wants to do.

Ogden and Papien have designed the MTC memory and are studying the characteristics of the memory in MTC. In about 10 weeks the memory investigation may be far enough along so that some time on MTC can be given to Adams' group. We also plan to try out terminal equipment, new circuits, plug-in units, etc.

5. Cape Cod Equipment

Little additional work has been done on the first two stations of the Cape Cod display system during the last week. Tests in the computer itself have received most attention. Noise on the scope deflection lines may be causing trouble. A better design is being developed. A push-pull system is believed to be the best solution.

Signed

David R. Brown  
Secretary

DRB/djd

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