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Memorandum 6L-192

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

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Date: 3-15-60

SUBJECT: GROUP LEADERS' MEETING, March 21, 1955

To: Group Leaders

From: David R. Brown

Date: March 22, 1955

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

- Agenda:
1. AN/FSQ-7 Time Cycle
 2. Meeting of Group Leaders on March 28
 3. Discussion with R. P. Crago
 4. March 23 Coordination Committee Meeting
 5. Second Source of Tubes for AN/FSQ-7
 6. Space for IBM Personnel
 7. Quarterly Progress Report
 8. National Security Agency
 9. Philco
 10. General Ceramics
 11. Digital Data Transmitters and Receivers
 12. Proposed Naval Test
 13. 701 Computer Time
 14. Group 61 Hiring Policy
 15. Biweekly Reports for Bell Telephone Laboratories

1. AN/FSQ-7 Time Cycle

The first stage of a study of the AN/FSQ-7 time cycle has been completed and was reported on March 18. The study is based on the 1954 Cape Cod System with suitable adjustments made for the FSQ-7 instruction code, timing, and program. Severe assumptions regarding the number of tracks were also used to obtain the estimate of 20 seconds for a complete program cycle. If some frills are removed from the program this can be reduced to 15 seconds. If less severe assumptions regarding the number of tracks, etc., are used, the estimated time for the cycle can be reduced to 13 seconds.

Additional work is required to determine what figures are to be quoted in the operational plan and to prepare a report of the study for distribution.

2. Meeting of Group Leaders on March 28

The first of a regular series of joint meetings of the Lincoln Laboratory Steering Committee and technical Group Leaders is scheduled for March 28 at 2:00 pm. The radar coordinating committee will report at this first meeting.

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3. Discussions with R. P. Crago

S. H. Dodd and N. H. Taylor discussed AN/FSQ-7 problems with R. P. Crago in Poughkeepsie during the week of March 14. Crago has proposed that such meetings be held weekly with Taylor and Dodd, so that the frequency of Coordination Committee Meetings can be decreased. MIT will agree to no fewer than two Coordination Committee Meetings per month. The preparation of test specifications for FSQ-7's at Kingston was also discussed with Crago. The extent to which MIT will participate in the preparation of these specifications has not been determined. Dodd and Taylor proposed the separation of discussions of the engineering and technical aspects of changes and the time-schedule aspect of changes. Magnetic drums were not discussed.

4. March 23 Coordination Committee Meeting

Representatives of IBM and Western Electric meet in New York on March 22 to discuss possible revision of the display air-duct system because of a requirement of a 9-in. minimum radius for display-cable bends. S. H. Dodd will discuss this problem with C. Lynch on March 23. B. Paine may be asked to look into the problem.

The participation of Bendix in the FSQ-7 program may be discussed at the March 23 meeting. One aspect of the discussion might be concerned with the participation of Bendix and Hazeltine in the XD-1 program. However, this should be discussed in greater detail here before the Wednesday meeting.

5. Second Source of Tubes for AN/FSQ-7

Raytheon and Bendix have been recommended as second sources for tubes for AN/FSQ-7. A number of persons have been critical of Raytheon as a second source because of Raytheon's unreasonably low bid. We should make sure that Raytheon understands our specifications and the difficulties other tube manufacturers have had in meeting these specifications. If this is done Raytheon may increase its bid to a more reasonable figure.

6. Space for IBM Personnel

J. C. Proctor recommends that E. Nickerson's inspection shop be moved in with P. Grant's electronic wiring shop and that the space vacated by the inspection shop be turned over to IBM personnel. Proctor will prepare a memorandum on the proposed move which can be distributed to members of the Lincoln Laboratory Steering Committee.

7. Quarterly Progress Report

Group Leaders are urged to have copy for the Quarterly Progress Report submitted at the earliest possible date. J. B. Bennett is leaving March 31 and would like to have the work finished before he leaves.

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8. National Security Agency

D. R. Brown and D. J. Eckl visited the National Security Agency on March 15 to discuss NSA's plans for having Philco design and construct a large-scale transistorized digital computer. It is expected that the control and arithmetic units will be constructed of surface-barrier transistors and that the memory will utilize ferrite memory cores. Group 63 plans to maintain close liaison with NSA in the development of this computer.

9. Philco

D. R. Brown has received a letter from D. B. Smith, Philco Vice President, stating that release of Philco's direct-coupled circuits is scheduled for the IRE National Convention if no military classification is imposed on the circuits by the Air Force before March 16 or 17. A more explicit written release will be obtained from Philco.

10. General Ceramics

D. R. Brown visited General Ceramics executives on March 16 to discuss General Ceramics' problems in relation to MIT and the development of improved ferrite memory cores. Some progress is being made and negotiations will be continued.

11. Digital Data Transmitters and Receivers

An all-Air-Force meeting on digital data transmitters and receivers is to be held on March 22.

12. Proposed Naval Test

The Navy has indicated it is now ready to undertake a large-scale test of the Cape Cod System, including a strike from a carrier. Any definite plans for such a test will be postponed until coordinated plans for future tests have been determined.

13. 701 Computer Time

Recently a party from Group 61, travelling to New York to use the 701 there, found the computer shut down and no time available. They will check with New York in the future before making such a trip.

14. Group 61 Hiring Policy

Up to the present time Group 61 has stressed the need for staff members who are of sufficient caliber to be potential section leaders. It now appears there is a definite need for some persons not of this caliber. C. R. Wieser should determine the quota of such persons who may be hired in the near future.

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15. Biweekly Reports for Bell Telephone Laboratories

Division 6 Biweekly Reports will be sent to some members of the ADES organization at Bell Telephone Laboratories.

Signed David R. Brown
David R. Brown
Secretary

DEB/jg

cc: W. K. Inwill

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