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Memorandum 6L-174

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

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SUBJECT: GROUP LEADERS' MEETING, November 29, 1954

To: Group Leaders

From: David R. Brown

Date: December 3, 1954

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

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- Agenda:
1. Division 6 Offices
 2. Meeting on Combined Direction and Combat Centers
 3. AN/FSQ-7(XD-1) and (XD-2)
 4. Group 63 Advance Development
 5. Radar Orientation
 6. Fine-Grain Data
 7. Petty Cash
 8. Hughes' Visit on November 30
 9. Assistance from ADES
 10. Salary Increases
 11. Administrative Bulletin on Admitting Visitors
 12. Personnel
 13. Quarterly Progress Report
 14. IBM Subcontract and Development Work

1. Division 6 Offices

The Parker Company has delivered some 7-foot partitions, permitting work on the planned rearrangement of Group 62 and Group 64 offices. R. L. Best's section will be moved first, followed by J. F. Jacobs and B. E. Morriss. The rearrangement of telephones will take place some indefinite time after the moves.

2. Meeting on Combined Direction and Combat Centers

Representatives of Lincoln Laboratory, Western Electric, the building designers and architects, and the Air Force, will meet on December 3 to review drawings for the combined direction and combat centers. An additional 30-foot bay is proposed to provide additional administrative offices.

3. AN/FSQ-7(XD-1) and (XD-2)

N. H. Taylor has obtained a list of 22 specific difficulties with XD-1 and XD-2 from MIT engineers on the test floor in Poughkeepsie. The list is as follows:

1. Wiring inspection is poor
2. The memory clock is poorly constructed and

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3. The delay lines cause considerable trouble.
4. Relays in the memory frame are of poor quality.
5. The memory-driver-panel tester is unsatisfactory.
6. The memory-driver panel has poor construction.
7. Too many engineers operate on the test floor at the same time.
8. The edge connectors on the modules are weak.
9. The cyclic program used for testing is inadequate.
10. It is difficult to get drawings and reports to people on the test floor.
11. Back-panel changes made during system tests are not properly cleaned up.
12. The plug-in-unit tester provides no marginal checking.
13. Records on plug-in-unit maintenance are inadequate. The people operating the testers are not properly trained.
14. Burroughs test equipment on the test floor does not have the latest modifications.
15. There is a shortage of tools on the test floor.
16. The plug-in-unit tester is not sufficiently elaborate.
17. No central location is maintained for computer records. There is no service file.
18. The voltage divider to provide minus 70 volts for filaments gets burned out as the result of filament shorts, but there is no means of telling when the divider burns out.
19. Cards cannot be made to read in to the memory via the in-out register.
20. Memory No. 2 driver panels are not properly inspected.
21. Air conditioning on the test floor is inadequate.
22. Plugs on the consoles are inadequate.

N. H. Taylor has discussed this list with W. L. Jackman who agrees to all items except 7 and 13. N. H. Taylor will discuss the list with H. D. Ross to find out what items will be fixed. The meeting should be documented.

IBM plans a second visit to Hazeltine to discuss subcontracting FSQ-7 engineering. The engineering subcontract will be discussed with the Air Force on December 3.

It appears that Division 6 should do more planning for the SAGE system and not get committed further to the XD-1 program. As much of the XD-1 job as possible should be handled by IBM. We must, however, be in a position to take over in case IBM fails.

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4. Group 63 Advance Development

A meeting to brief the advance-development steering committee on the status of Group 63 advance development will be held on Tuesday, December 7, at 3:30 pm.

5. Radar Orientation

Radar orientation (calibration) is a bigger job than had been expected. Group 61 will work on methods and attempt to enlist the help of ADES.

6. Fine-Grain Data

A proposal has been made to put fine-grain data on the TPS/1D in Lexington. C. R. Wieser believes this would set back the long-range plans for FGD. FGD should be put at South Truro as soon as possible. Group 24 has two FGD systems, a drum system and a core system. Burroughs will get the production order for one of these. The first FGD for FSQ-7 is expected in the late spring of 1955.

7. Petty Cash

J. C. Proctor will delineate Division 6 petty-cash practice and review this with Group 61 and DDL.

8. Hughes' Visit on November 30

On November 30 representatives of Hughes, CRC, WADC, JPO, BTL, and Lincoln Laboratory will discuss integration of the MX-1179 in the SAGE system. The MX-1179 is an airborne computer designed by Hughes. Hughes is proposing a series of flight tests to be run in conjunction with WVI or XD-1.

9. Assistance from ADES

A meeting on December 3 will discuss possible ADES assistance for the SAGE-system program. Some items for which ADES assistance might be requested are: study of the output system, communications, data-link testing, installation, remote displays, cabling, scheduling and planning of installation, and phasing of tests and modes of operation.

10. Salary Increases

The review for January 1 salary increases should consider promotions, changes in responsibility, or errors in the July 1 evaluation. Group Leaders should submit names of those to be considered and reasons for the consideration to J. C. Proctor as soon as possible.

New staff members should be reviewed at the end of three months, or up to six months if the additional time is needed for evaluation. J. C. Proctor will prepare a separate list of new staff members requiring review.

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11. Administrative Bulletin on Admitting Visitors

A draft of a proposed administrative bulletin on admitting visitors to the Lincoln Laboratory is being sent to Group Leaders for their comments.

12. Personnel

H. H. Taylor expressed the opinion that groups in the Lincoln Laboratory are becoming too compartmented. If a promotion is to be made, personnel in all divisions should be considered. Also, transfers between groups and between divisions should be arranged to develop people with the broad background needed for our program. The best people should be transferred.

Any suggestions should be transmitted to J. W. Forrester.

13. Quarterly Progress Report

J. C. Proctor will find out when the next Quarterly Progress Report is due.

Signed

David R. Brown
David R. Brown
Secretary

DRB/jg

cc: A. P. Kromer
W. K. Linvill

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