

Memorandum 6L-169

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Page 1 of 3

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

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SUBJECT: GROUP LEADERS' MEETING, OCTOBER 18, 1954

To: Group Leaders

From: David R. Brown

Date: October 19, 1954

Present: J. W. Forrester, D. R. Brown, S. H. Dodd, R. R. Everett,
A. P. Kromer, J.-C. Proctor, N. H. Taylor, C. R. Weiser,
P. Youtz, and for Item 7, J. A. O'Brien

- Agenda:
1. Installation of Production AN/FSQ-7's
 2. AN/FSQ-7 Display
 3. IBM Relations and Building F
 4. Antiaircraft
 5. Direction Center Building Plans
 6. Subcontract by IBM for AN/FSQ-7 Design
 7. AN/FSQ-7 (XD-1)

1. Installation of Production AN/FSQ-7's

At a meeting held on October 11 the Air Defense Command asked about the eight months installation and check-out period for production AN/FSQ-7's. What are the responsibilities of IBM, Western Electric, the Air Force, etc.? At the present time IBM is planning on a production period of 28 months and an installation period of 8 months. However, the Air Force appears to be planning on having the first installation operational at the end of the 8-months period. More consideration will be given these plans at a meeting to be held in Poughkeepsie on October 27. ADES should be represented at this meeting as well as A. P. Kromer's office and the Air Force.

Before IBM begins delivery of FSQ-7 frames to an installation, all air conditioning, lighting, power, etc. should be installed. The first data lines should be installed sometime early during the 8 months' period. The latter part of the period will be required for ADC training. Eight months is recognized as being insufficient for the first few installations.

Three duplex test cells will be provided in the IBM plant at Kingston.

2. AN/FSQ-7 Display

P. Youtz, C. L. Corderman, and F. A. Rodgers attended meetings at Convair to discuss Charactron manufacture and purchase specifications. Convair plans call for supplying 120 Charactrons for XD-1. Some rejects can be used for life tests. A new matrix design is to be prepared with the assistance of Group 38. C. L. Corderman must get information on the new matrix design to Convair by October 25.

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Progress on Typotron development at Hughes is fair. Production is scheduled for the near future.

3. IBM Relations and Building F

IBM's contract with Berman for air conditioning in Building F has met with difficulty because of IBM's introduction (at a late date) of a cost-redetermination clause in the contract. Award of the contract to Berman can suffer no further delay and should be made by October 19. S. H. Dodd should inform N. H. Taylor or C. S. McElwain if any further difficulties are encountered.

Funds are being made available for lighting in Building F but IBM has not yet asked for bids. J. W. Forrester will write T. A. Burke informing him of our approval of an invitation for bids.

4. Antiaircraft

Some meetings have been held with the Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories regarding antiaircraft requirements. The Lincoln Laboratory will devote more effort to the antiaircraft requirements in the SAGE system. Lincoln will recommend an Antiaircraft Operations center in the Direction Center consisting of four to six consoles. Automatic target and battery evaluation will be done by FSQ-7. The Operations Center will be primarily to direct NIKE batteries.

5. Direction Center Building Plans

The changes originally proposed by the Air Force to reduce the cost of the Direction Center buildings were too extensive to permit maintaining the building time schedule. A compromise has been reached which incorporates some of the changes. The building layout is satisfactory, agreeing with the floor plan first submitted by Lincoln.

Air Force budget authorities have questions the need for connection of FSQ-7 installations to utility power lines.

6. Subcontract by IBM for AN/FSQ-7 Design

The expansion of the engineering facility required by IBM to carry out the FSQ-7 design is to be obtained by subcontract. From 20 to 30 per cent of the total engineering facility is to be obtained in this way. More liaison will be required from both IBM and MIT.

7. AN/FSQ-7 (XD-1)

It appears that neither XD-1 nor Building F will be ready on January 1, 1955. The date for delivery for XD-1 to Lexington must receive serious consideration.

Several serious faults have been discovered on the test floor in Poughkeepsie. One of these is the extreme difficulty of locating shorts of coaxial-cable shields to ground, since all coaxial cable shields are tied together to the minus 15 volt power supply.

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Memorandum 6L-169

Page 3

The magnetic drums appear to be one month behind schedule and their performance is uncertain. XD-1 should remain in Poughkeepsie as long as time there can be used effectively to make necessary changes. N. H. Taylor will prepare a list of considerations which should determine the date for shipment of XD-1 to Lexington.

When XD-1 arrives in Lexington IBM should be given the opportunity of bringing the machine up to the level of performance it had before it left Poughkeepsie. At the end of this time MIT should take over operation of the system. J. A. O'Brien will have authority for this operation. He will prepare a list of things he will need, such as a tube shop, and submit this list to N. H. Taylor. A procedure for proposing and carrying out changes in XD-1 and production FSQ-7's should be prepared. S. H. Dodd is working on this for the production machines.

Signed

David R. Brown

David R. Brown
Secretary

DRE/djb

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

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