

C. R. Corderman

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Memorandum 6L-272

PL-BZ-41  
Copy No. 11 of 20  
Page 1 of 3

Division 6 - Lincoln Laboratory

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Lexington 73, Massachusetts

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:  
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Subject: Group Leaders' Meeting - August 6, 1956

To: Group Leaders and Associate Group Leaders

From: C. W. Farr

Date: August 10, 1956

Present: N. H. Taylor, S. H. Dodd, J. F. Jacobs, H. D. Benington,  
W. J. Canty, C. L. Corderman, N. L. Daggett, R. S. Fallows,  
C. W. Farr, D. R. Israel, K. E. McVicar, B. E. Morriss, Jr.,  
W. N. Papian

Agenda: 1. Salary Technical Personnel Appointments  
2. XD-1 Reliability  
3. Master Program  
4. ADES Meeting  
5. ESS Schedules  
6. Use Of Heavy Radars In ESS  
7. Organizational Structure--Group 61

1. Salary Technical Personnel Appointments

Daggett explained the problem, encountered with Salary Technical Personnel appointments and mentioned Wheeler and Blumenthal for example. The STP category is intermediate between technician and a staff appointment. Two offers were recently made and declined in comparison with hourly salaries (with overtime). The offers were computed on the basis of approximating the hourly rate at an average of 43 hours per week. Appointment to STP opens the horizon for an hourly employee to move into a salary position and hopefully be promoted again to a staff position; advantages to supervision include the removal of the man from the bargaining unit. However, STP appointments naturally are unattractive if they involve no financial advantage. The offer was made at a time when overtime was heavy. Since heavy overtime for extensive periods is not advisable, it is expected that a later opportunity will arise when the offer can be made and appear attractive in comparison

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED  
PHK  
NO-382  
Page 110

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

Memorandum 6L-272

Page 2

with hourly take-home pay.

Papian participated in the discussion pointing out that Committee A had worked on the problem and had temporarily set it aside pending completion of contract negotiations.

## 2. XD-1 Reliability

Benington and Canty reported on XD-1 performance stating that improvement had been obtained for the last few days.

Canty said cleaning of tapes had helped although he expected the basic trouble had not been removed; trouble in the auxiliary memory drums is probably corrected; the card machine has been tossing out a blank card about once every eight hours--Canty thinks this has been corrected over the week-end. He mentioned a steady state failure requiring two hours for correction; this is excessive time. IBM trouble shooting procedures need to be checked. Mean free time between failures is still less than an hour, which is unsatisfactory. The capability of the shift technicians assigned to XD-1 leaves something to be desired. Field engineers take over XD-1 about October and we are already in the transition period.

Taylor pointed out that Lincoln needs to make specific suggestions to IBM to correct the situations; also Taylor needs up to date reports in order to discuss the problem effectively with Crago.

## 3. Master Program

Benington reviewed the status of Master Program preparation stating that Bailey had been assigned to a special study of drum capability.

Taylor emphasized the need for "getting off the ground" with emphasis on earliest possible preparation of the Air Surveillance Program package and with less regard for initial tracking capacity.

Master Program discussion led to questions concerning increased core memory for FSQ-7. Current thinking favors the 256 by 256 memory units; for a prototype memory expansion the memory unit would probably be built as a joint Lincoln/IBM effort as was done with the original XD-1 memory.

## 4. ADES Meeting

Taylor announced that the August ADES meeting had been cancelled.

## 5. ESS Schedule

Dodd pointed out that the cancellation of the August ADES meeting removes the problem of preparing ESS schedules for presentation.

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Memorandum 6L-272

Page 3

He said that the PCC is arriving at the conclusion that present ESS schedules are in trouble due to manpower, training, etc. Taylor said we must discover the causes of schedule difficulty and make them known promptly in order that Lincoln may exert corrective pressure to break the bottlenecks.

Taylor also requested Canty and Benington to assign necessary people to the XD-1 reliability problem to put Lincoln in position to make specific requests to IBM and be in position, by the time of the September ADES meeting, to take a major stand if necessary.

6. Use Of Heavy Radars In ESS

Canty pointed out that South Truro radar and FGD machine may be less reliable than Bath or Montauk. Checkout of programs and shake-downs should not depend solely on South Truro site data until at least the time when South Truro FST-2 becomes operational (approximately December 1956).

7. Organizational Structure--Group 61

Israel indicated that many members of Group 61 have retained Section Leader titles and are not actually supervising Sections in Group 61. He questioned what should be done. Discussion indicated that this problem is at least Division-wide if not Lincoln-wide. Taylor will discuss with other Divisions. The question was tabled for a later meeting.

CWF:ssm

*CWF*  
C. W. Farr, Secretary

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