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Memorandum 6L-247

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lexington 73, Massachusetts

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE-236 MEETING MINUTES (SIXTH MEETING, 21 February 1956)

To: Distribution List

From: E. S. Rich

Date: 28 February 1956

Approved: C. R. Wieser
C. R. WieserCLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:
Auth: DD 254
By: RRB
Date: 3-15-60

Attendance:

S. H. Dodd	H. Sherman	E. S. Rich
F. C. Frick	C. R. Wieser	N. H. Taylor
P. Rosen	W. I. Wells	

1.0 AGENDA

1. TIR Release on Air Force Operator Requirements
2. ESS Operator Training
3. Cape Cod Manning
4. ESS Maintenance Coordination Planning
5. Removal of Manual Height Finders from ESS Equipment List
6. Visit from ADES Project Office
7. Over-all Test Program

2.0 DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS2.1 TIR Release on Air Force Operator Requirements

At the previous committee meeting on 15 February it was pointed out that there were some inconsistencies in the dates indicated in three memoranda which are being processed for TIR release on the subject of Air Force Operator requirements and proficiencies (2M-0032, 2M-0047, 6M-4088). In particular there was a question whether the dates quoted for the start of program check-out and shakedown testing should be published as stated in the memos or whether they should be revised. Wieser stated that it was urgent that these memos be released as quickly as possible and that it was his opinion that they should go out without a change in dates with the qualification that the requirements up to 1 July are estimates subject to revision. In particular, if there is a schedule slippage it should not be announced in a training document. The committee decided that this TIR should be handled as Wieser suggested and that Rich and Wells would be responsible that other minor inconsistencies in nomenclature and numbers would get corrected.

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2.2 FSS Operator Training

Wieser discussed the results of a recent meeting among various Lincoln and Air Force representatives to discuss the ESS training problem. He reported that as a result of the interest shown by Headquarters USAF, Lt. Col. Prodders of the 6520th has been assigned to look into the ESS-operator-training activity. Lt. Col. Prodders conducted the meeting referred to and went into many details of the plan which the 6520th has produced for its operator training course. It was brought out in the meeting that greater emphasis should be placed on the teaching of display symbology. It was agreed that this phase would require 2 hours per day for a period of 60 days. It was also pointed out that more information was required from Lincoln regarding the specifications for symbology and Jacobs plans to inform them by 23 February as to when the remaining information needed can be made available. Major Burns stated he requires this information by 27 February. The question of how to teach switch actions was also discussed at the meeting. Advantage is to be taken of the use of full-size photographs and of the use of some dead time on the consoles in Building F for familiarization with the layout of switches and controls. There was further discussion at the meeting referred to on the use of training tapes. A representative from ATC stated that specifications for the first tape would be completed by 5 March and subsequent specifications would be produced at the rate of 1 per two weeks initially and later at an accelerated rate.

Wells made the point that the coding of the data-generation program for MTC is likely to be a limiting factor in the production of training tapes. He was pessimistic that this program could be finished within the schedule which has been estimated. Frick stated his opinion that the FSS training job can be done without these training tapes, but it was pointed out that the data-generation program is also needed for producing test tapes, so it is a critical activity. Rich and Wells are to look into the status of this activity.

2.3 Cape Cod Manning

Wieser made the announcement that the problem of loss of key Air Force operators for the Cape Cod tests which was discussed at the last committee meeting is going to be reviewed by the SEPTC Committee. He is now investigating possible sources of additional Air Force manpower but to date none has been found available.

2.4 ESS Maintenance Coordination Planning

Rich described a proposal for a maintenance coordination function in ESS which has been prepared by Chan Watt. This proposal outlines some manpower requirements and lists the work to be done by people in this function. There was considerable discussion of this matter and a general feeling expressed that the memo did not adequately describe the activities that the committee felt were necessary. However, there was general agreement that an activity under Chan Watt to serve as a middle ground between system-failure diagnosis and the actual repair and maintenance of equipment was desirable. Rich is to

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work with Watt in making revisions to the proposal.

2.5 Removal of Manual Height Finders from ESS Equipment List

Rich read a memo that has been prepared by the ESS-PCC stating that the manual height finders at Martha's Vineyard and Pigeon Hill are not to be used in the tests of the Experimental Subsector. The committee approved this memo for ESS planning purposes but agreed that the official notification of their removal should come through a TIR release. The memo as read will be distributed and the PCO will then process a TIR change to the ESS equipment list. Sherman stated his opinion that someone should determine whether the Air Force planned any use of the MPS-4 height finders during the initial phases of SAGE operation, if so, this might have a bearing on whether the units should be eliminated from the system. It was agreed that the PCO should make this inquiry before the TIR release.

2.6 Visit from ADES Project Office

Wieser announced that he has made agreements with Col. Scott for a visit to Lincoln on 24 February to discuss arrangements for release of ESS summary-schedule information in advance of the ADES monthly meetings. It is expected that Col. Scott will review the material available and that an agreement will be reached as to what information we will prepare for them on a periodic basis.

3.0 NEXT MEETING

The final agenda item was postponed until the next meeting which was set for 2 March. Several members voiced the opinion that they did not have sufficient advance notice of the committee meetings to enable them to adequately plan for attendance. In the future, meeting dates will be announced by a written notification to each member and when possible a notice of agenda items will be sent a few days prior to the meeting.

E. S. Rich

E. S. Rich

ESR:MFC

cc: W. B. Davenport	J. F. Jacobs	N. H. Taylor
S. H. Dodd	V. A. Nedzel	G. E. Valley
R. R. Everett	E. S. Rich	W. I. Wells
F. C. Frick	P. Rosen	C. R. Wieser
F. E. Heart	H. Sherman	C. F. J. Overhage
J. W. Forrester	J. C. Starks	

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