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Collaboration
DOC #27 M-2591 *re*

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MEMORANDUM

11-18-49
M-2591

To: Staff
From: Ad Hoc Committee on Planning
Subject: First Progress Report

Office of the Secretary of Defense **U.S.C. § 552**
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 06 OCT 2015 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: _____
MDR: 14 -M- 0541

1. The Committee deplores, but recognizes, the need for immediate action on the research program for calendar 1950. Therefore the Committee is working on recommendations for that program, rather than first seeking a general frame-of-reference to guide RAND's research planning.

2. The Committee recommends that

a) Bombing System Analysis be reported by January 1, 1950, and that further work carry no deadlines during 1950.

b) Defense Study (circa 1956) be initiated; its deadlines to be accorded RAND priority.

c) Offense Missiles vs. Manned-Aircraft Study (circa 1960) be initiated; its deadlines to be accorded RAND priority.


d) Symmetric Air War Study be continued; without deadlines.

3. It may not be possible to devise more logical or meaningful programs for subsequent years than that suggested in Paragraph 2. However, the attempt should be made and it should be made earlier than the present suggestions. We are at this time so bound by political considerations and promises that there is little freedom of action left for 1950.

4. The Committee will make recommendations regarding organization, schedule and amount of effort for the items under Paragraph 2. At this moment it has a partial set of recommendations for the Defense Study. These follow:

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a) That a Mock-up, or Preliminary-Model, Work Group be formed not later than January 1, which would complete its work by February 1. Its job would be to define the defense problem and to make a preliminary analysis of it, for the purpose of gaining insight into the degree of complexity which it is feasible to incorporate in the study, and to gain insight into the scale of effort required on the various components.

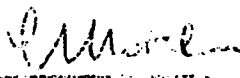
b) Recommended membership of the above group:

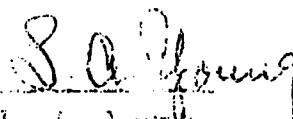
Paxson (chairman)
C. Hitch*
E. Barlow
G. Brown
J. Wylie

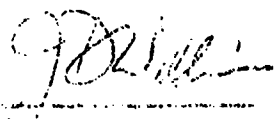
(* L. Young for C. Hitch during first week of January).

c) That the Defense Project proper begin on February 1, under Paxson as Project Officer. The Project Officer should be assisted by a small group whose members will be responsible for getting from the RAND Divisions the components needed for the Project. The function of this Project group is different from that of the Mock-up Group, so its membership will be different; the Committee's recommendations as to individuals are not as yet formed.

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C. J. Birch


L. A. Young


J. D. Williams

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