

LCM 63/1

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Committee on Electronics  
Panel on Communications

28 February 1949

Minutes - First Meeting  
Subpanel on Systems  
Held 23 February 1949 at 0930  
Navy Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Present:

- Dr. Knox C. Black, Chairman
- Mr. Roy Allen, WL (DM)
- Mr. R. F. Brady, OCSigO (M)
- Lt. Comdr. J. W. Jones, CNO (M)
- Mr. W. M. Richardson, ONR (M)
- Mr. Stuart Schram, Jr., AMC (M)

Also Present:

- Mr. A. W. Small, ASA

Absent:

- Mr. V. B. Brann, ASA (M)
- Mr. H. T. Hart, WP (M)
- Mr. John J. Kelley, BuShips (M)
- Mr. H. Y. Littlefield, WL (M)

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Attachment:

LCM 63/1.1 "Field of Interest"

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 United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50 U.S.C., 31 and  
 32. The transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to  
 an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.  
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1. Field of Interest

The field of interest and terms of reference for the Subpanel were discussed. LCM 03/1.1 was prepared as a recommended field of interest which should be considered and (if satisfactory) approved by the Panel. Terms of reference should be identical with those of the Panel with the limitation of the field of interest.

Action - K. C. Black. Discussion at next Panel meeting.

2. Allocation of Responsibility

No investigation of this, pending action on other matters - see below.

Action - None at this time.

3. Summary Charts and Systems Projects

Latest edition of summary charts has no specific systems projects. However, prior to the next meeting, each Service member is to review all projects in the summary charts under the cognizance of his Service and report at the next meeting all projects which are predominantly "systems" in character or which have so much "systems" work in them that they should be considered by the Systems Subpanel.

Action - All Service members review their own projects in the summary charts and have "systems" jobs tagged for the next meeting.

A discussion was held concerning other jobs not appearing on the summary charts, but of "systems" character. Summarize these.

3.1 Johns Hopkins Contract with ONR (see memorandum from Richardson to Pratt dated 26 November 1948). Work on this has yielded nothing tangible as yet. K. C. Black to check with Panel on Basic Research for coordination responsibility. W. M. Richardson to report at approximately quarterly intervals on progress on this job.

Action - K. C. Black and W. M. Richardson

3.2 Strauberg Carlson Navy Contract N6ORI-187. Now complete Task No. 1 final report. Summary Report is worth having as a general reference book.

Action - No specific action needed.

3.3 Bell System - Signal Corps Contract. Identified as No. 38115. This is a broad general systems research contract, very important to RDB and the Services in general. This follows a similar general

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contract that had been in effect for some years. Brady will get more information on this for the next meeting. It would appear that the money calls for a team averaging two engineers (+ a factor of two) on an annual basis.

Action - Brady.

- 3.4 Signal Corps Project. Identified by No. 414-A. A general project intended to cover an integrated anti-aircraft defense system, using (in general) conventional communication equipment. This is in the embryonic stage and a later report on this will be made by Brady.

Action - Brady (low priority).

- 3.5 USAF Communications Incidental to Radar Jobs. Certain USAF radar jobs have within them on a subcontract or as a separate but supplementary job, communication systems projects.

Radar Jobs	Supplementary Communications Jobs included in radar
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AN/CPS-6b  
AN/GEL-3  
AN/GSC-1

AN/MPS-7 and /FPS-3  
AN/MSQ-1

Many months ago the question was raised concerning the part the Communication Panel should play in this work, and Mr. I. Tradup was appointed as coordinator with the Radar Panel.

Action - K. C. Black should check with A. Tradup.

- 3.6 USAF "Belt Line" Project. This is definitely "systems" in character, but according to the USAF members, this project is in the thinking stage only.

Action - USAF members to keep the Subpanel informed.

- 3.7 Navy "Fox" Broadcasts. This is almost out of the category of a system, but it falls under the present definition.

Action - Navy members will keep the Subpanel informed.

- 3.8 Others. No other "systems" projects were mentioned, but at the next meeting any projects of this type, in addition to those in the present summary charts, should be listed.

Action - All Service members.

4. Systems Charts

Early in the work of the Communication Panel various Service members

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(Hessel for Signal Corps, Horne and Blaisdell for the Navy, Rockwell and Hallman for AMC), gave overall systems pictures supplemented in most cases with overall charts. Prior to the next meeting, these should be reviewed and brought up to date. Ultimately, an accurate chart of present transitional and future system organization might easily be the most useful work end result of the efforts of the Sub-panel.

Action - Comdr. Jones, Mr. Brady, and the AMC representative.

5. Communications Systems Bibliography

Brady reported that he had a rather extensive bibliography pertinent to the Subpanel work. He will supply such a bibliography at the next meeting. Also, there is in particular a document entitled, "Combat Military Signal System" which should be of great interest to the Sub-panel.

Action - Mr. Brady.

6. Systems Standards

This subject is under the cognizance of this Subpanel, but it has already been allocated to the Department of the Army. Hence, the Subpanel is only concerned with periodic review and possible re-allocation. Reports indicate that this subject is being carefully handled and no present action is indicated.

Action - None.

7. Ad Hoc Committee on Future Communications Plan

Brady reported on the activity of this Group, which is, as far as the Panel is concerned, "systems" in character. After having accomplished its primary mission in aiding in the preparation of documents from the JOEC on which part of the annual Report of the Panel on Communications is based, active meetings are suspended. The Group can be called together again by either the JOEC or the RDB members.

Action - none.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Panel will be at 8:30 A.M., March 23, 1949, in Room 1641, Main Navy Building, Washington, D. C.

## Subpanel on Systems

28 February 1949

1. Field of Interest

The Subpanel on Systems will initially consider those problems within the Terms of Reference of the Panel on Communications which concern:

- a. The combined use of two or more different types of equipment as a communications system.
- b. The research and development of communications systems to meet operational requirements of a specific nature.
- c. The interconnection of various communications systems, within and/or between commands, to provide the integrated communications system required for the National Military Establishment.
- d. Liaison with appropriate agencies of the JCEC on communications equipment and systems matters.